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Peres favours Gaza-Jericho option

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Jericho in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip could be pilox projects for Palestinian autonomy in the territories, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Monday. "It's a blueprint that involves creating two territorial units to try out an autonomy regime even before the agnature of a general agreement on such a form of administration in the territories," he told parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee. "Jericho was chosen since there is no Jewish settlement nearby." he was quoted as saying by partiamentary sources. "Under no circumstances will these autonomous regions be closed and Israelis will not need visas to enter them," he added. Mr. Peres praised Palestinians who initially raised the possibility of a Jericho and Gaza first option but noted that there had been no formal discussions on the issue. In a document handed to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher during a regional swing last month, the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks recommended a preliminary Israeli disengagement from the Gaza Strip and Jericho region. According to the Palestinians, the Israeli army must withdraw to its sectors, which Israel has not accepted (see story below).

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تليمز يومية سياسة تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحابة الربيئية ،الراي،

Judge rejects blind sheikh's appeal

WHITE PLAINS (AFP) — A federal judge Monday rejected a request for the release of Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the blind Muslim cleric whose alleged followers have been charged in the World Trade Centre bombing. The ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Charles Brieant came hours after the end of a hijacking by an Egyptian businessman who commandeered an American-Bound Dutch airliner Sunday to demand Sheikh Abdul Pahman's release German policy storage and sunday. Sheikh Abdul Rahman's release. German police stormed the airliner in Dusseldorf Monday and captured the hijacker after the remaining hostages, the pilot and a steward, had escaped (see story below). Judge Brieant on Monday delayed Sheikh Abdul Rahman's deportation for 10 days to give his lawyers time to appeal, but said there was "no basis to disturb" the findings by an immigration judge and the board of immigration appeals that he be deported. In the 48-page ruling, Mr. Brieant judged "without merit" the claims of the eleric's lawyers that the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) had acted improperly by using inaccurate information. Sheikh Abdul Rahman was taken into custody last month after his permanent resident status was revoked.

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Israel wants U.S. to pressure N.Korea

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israel said Monday it wanted the United States to put pressure on North Korea to stop Scud missile sales to the Middle East. Deputy Defence Minister Mordechai Gur said Israel supported diplomatic efforts to halt the arms build-up in the region. "The United States has the power to do this, and we must put our trust in it," he said. His comments came after reported U.S. pressure on Israel not to established diplomatic ties with North Korea, which Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin accused Sunday of selling sophisticated Scud missiles to Syria.

UAE favours direct talks with Iran

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - The United Arab Emirates (UAE) supports direct talks with Iran to settle a territorial dispute over three islands in the strategic southern Gulf, a UAE official told Kuwait's KUNA news agency Monday. "The UAE believes in a settlement of its dispute with Iran through direct dialogue, without resorting to mediation." said Seif Saad, adding that the emirates had not asked any country to intervene. He was referring to reports of Moroccan mediation efforts between Abu Dhabi and Tehran. UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan is on a private visit to Morocco where he met twice with King Hassan II.

5 found in Thai hotel collapse

KORAT, Thailand (AP) Hours after giving up hope of finding more survivors, rescue workers late Monday discovered five women under tonnes of rubble of a hotel that collapsed three days earlier. Authorities had said there was no chance anyone was left alive, and started using cranes and buildozers to remove the hill of debris. But sifting by hand discovered in a conference room id tom the ears where almost 120 teachers had assembled when the hotel caved in Friday morning. Police said late Monday that at least 95 people were killed in the collapse of the six-storey Royal Plaza hotel in Korat, 220 kilometres northeast of Bangkok (see page 8). The government centre coordinating the search said 50 to 60 people remained inside the rub-

Kurdish party wants federal Iraq

ble. It said 225 people were in-

ERBIL (AFP) - Kurdish leader Massud Barzani said he would prefer a federal Iraq to full autonduning duning a wal is Monday of his party's first ever omy for the Kurds at the opening congress in a Kurdish-controlled area. Speaking at the opening of the 11th congress of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) in this city of northern Iraq, Mr. Barzani said his party was no longer demanding autonomy from Baghdad, but a federal system of which the Kurdish regional "government" would be a part.

Pakistan, Afghanistan discuss violence

ISLAMABAD (AFP) - The prime ministers of Pakistan and Afghanistan held talks here Monday on border clashes between Afehanistan and Tajikistan and on repatriating some two million refugees housed in Pakistan since the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. An official statement said Pakistani Prime Minister Moeen Qureshi and the new Afghan prime minister, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who arrived here Monday on a three-day official visit, showed a "complete identity" of views on regional and international issues.

Gunman fires at Nile cruiser

MANFALOUT, Egypt (AP) -A gunman fired at a cruiser caraused no cas, age, the Interior Min, age, the Interior Min, and The Royal Orchid cru, was near the town of Manfalou, 300 kilometres south of Cairo, when a man fired several shots towards the boat. There were no injuries reported among the British passengers.

Restriction of the caused no cas, age, the Interior Min, was near the town of Manfalou, 300 kilometres south of Cairo, when a man fired several shots towards the boat. There were no injuries reported among the British passengers. rying British tourists on the Nile

U.S. said to reject Gaza-Jericho option

Washington insisting on early empowerment plan — PLO official

By Wafa Amr Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The U.S. has reiected a Palestinian proposal to implement "final status" arrangements in Gaza and Jericho first, and insists instead on early empowerment in the occupied territories, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said

on Monday,
"The U.S. has recently informed Palestinians it rejects the Gaza-Jericho option as an impractical suggestion," the official

The Gaza-Jericho idea was proposed to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in a Palestinian document in Jerusalem during his regional tour earlier this month.

Palestinian Ambassador to Tunis Hakam Balawi said the idea was initially proposed to revive the stalled 21-month-old peace talks. Mr. Balawi, who ended a four-

day visit to Jordan Sunday, told the Jordan Times that the Gaza-Jericho first "was merely an idea aimed achieving Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho, and linking the final status in these territories to the interim period in the West Bank".

But Mr. Balawi denied statements made earlier this week by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's aide Bassam Abu Sharif suggesting the formation of a Palestinian provisional government in Jericho.

"These were not the PLO's proposals, and Abu Sharif is not authorised to speak on behalf of Mr. Abu Sharif made the re-

marks in an interview with the

By Mariam M. Shahin

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - An overwhelm-

ing majority of licensed Jorda-

nian political parties opposes amending the Election Law if

the changes are limited to in-

troducing a one-person-one-

vote formula and insists that if

amendments are to be intro-

duced then they have to cover

other factors in the electoral

system, a survey showed Mon-

A telephone poll conducted

by the Jordan Times showed that 16 of the 20 licensed par-

ties are against an amendment

that brings in a one-person-

one-vote formula "on its

The four others said they

welcomed any change to the

Election Law and the present

Party spokesmen of the first

camp said they felt that any change to the law should be

approved by Parliament and

that changing the law without

parliamentary approval would

Spokesmen and leaders of

political parties ranging from

the far left to the far right,

including the Islamic Action

Front (IAF), said the expected

change in the Election Law to

a one-person-one-vote process

should not take place now nor

should it be the major change

to the law if changes were to be

Insistence that Parliament

should vote on the issue and

the need to introduce more

wide-ranging changes such as a

redistribution of electoral dis-

tricts and minority seats were

among the many electoral

issues raised by political party

Political party activists and

spokespersons have been lob-

bying for a delay in any change

to the law in the past three

months to no apparent avail.

said that they supported an

equivocal change in the law.

Only four political parties

officials Monday.

made.

hurt the democratic process.

voting formula,

French daily Liberation published on Saturday. He repeated the comments in an interview on Israel Radio.

Mr. Balawi said that the Gaza-Jericho suggestion was meant only as a model for "final status" arrangements.

According to another PLO official, the arrangements of the "mixed model" approach, as perceived by the Palestinian leadership, would entail the follow-

- Setting an agreed timetable for the withdrawal of the Israeli army from the Gaza Strip and from Jericho and its environs.

- It would also include making trilateral agreements with U.N. participation or under U.N. international supervision for arrangements for crossing points (Gaza-Egypt and Jericho-Jordan). The establishment of a corri-

dor with air and land links for the free and unimpeded passage of persons and goods, per agreement with international guaran-- The U.N. will take over full

responsibility for running Gaza and Jericho for a specified period of time as a clear transitional caretaker. - Elections for local govern-

ment may be held under U.N.

- The U.N. will formally hand over its responsibilities to the PLO at the end of the specified transitional period, and the PLO assume all powers of a govern-

This arrangement, according to the official, would be linked to interim arrangements in the West whereby elections Palestinian authority would be Husseini says Israel must admit made. This elected authority talks with PLO, page 10

16 political parties oppose

1-person-1-vote 'on its own'

The right-of-centre Al Ahd Party, the Watan Party and the

Party for Progress and Justice

and the Arabic Islamic Demo-

cratic Party (Doa'a) unequivo-

cally welcomed the expected

In a written statement to the

Jordan Times, the Jordan

National Alliance, a conserva-

tive tribal-based party, said:

'We are against the one-man-

one-vote formula, Although

we support equality among all

voters and citizens, a wider,

more comprehensive

Spokespersons for the Popu-

framework should be found."

lar Unity Party and Yakadha (Reawakening), both right-of-

centre traditional parties, also

said that they were against any

change to the Election Law at

introduce these changes," said

Talal Ramahi, secretary gener-

al of the Popular Unity Party.

to the one-man-one-vote for-

mula," said Abdul Raouf Al

Rawabdeh, speaking from his Yakadha election headquar-

Centrist parties such as Al

Mustakbal, the Unionist Arab

Democratic Party and the Jor-

dan Arab Democratic Party

said that in the absence of

popular consultation through

the now-dissolved Parliament.

amending the Election Law would fail to meet the demo-

cratic parameters introduced

to the Jordanian political arena

democratic system at work,

and we believe that any change

in such an important law as the

Election Law, however tem-

porary, should include consult-

ing Parliament," said the

secretary-general of the Jordan

Arab Democratic Party, Mue-

Political observers believe

that all parties which were

"well represented" in the out-

going Parliament feel they may

lose as a result of any change to

'We would like to see a

ters in Irbid.

since 1989.

ness Quzzaz.

"We are against the change

"This is not the right time to

would then set up ties with the Gaza-Jericho government pend-ing the implementation of full Israeli withdrawal and the reemerging of the occupied term-

tories into one entity.
The "mixed-model" proposal caused controversy among Palestinian leaders in Tunis and peace delegates inside the occupied territories. Mr. Arafat was among the strongest advocates of the idea. Officials said Mr. Arafat, who received messages from third parties that Israel was considering withdrawal from Gaza alone, insisted on a package deal including withdrawal from Jericho. Gaza alone would lead to isolation and the fragmentation of the occupied territories, as well as possible Israeli claims that this would represent the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242.

The officials said the idea originally emerged when head-on collisions on issues of substance became inevitable between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators, particularly related to territorial jurisdiction, Jerusalem, withdrawal and settlements, hence negotiations on interim arrangements were proving unworkable.
The officials said the PLO was

increasingly concerned to know in advance the final objectives of the peace process, or the features of the permanent status of the occupied territories in view of what are seen as Israel's persistent atttempts at manipulating the terms of reference of the peace process and the U.S.

(Continued on page 10)

"The existing system and di-

vision of electoral districts and

election formula brought them

into Parliament, So they

oppose any move that might

deprive them of the seats they

had," said a former minister,

who is a supporter of the one-

Parties whose members held

at least one seat in the last

Parliament, including the

Jordanian Baath Arab Socialist

Party and the Jordanian

Democratic Popular Unity

Party, are also against a un-

ilateral change to the Election

Law without making changes

in the number of electoral dis-

tricts and other changes per-

taining to equal rights and rep-

The parties that accept a

limited change which would

focus on the one-person-one-

vote formula without changing

electoral districts, lowering the

voting age from 19 to 18 or

equalising the demographic

distribution of voters are; Al

Ahd Party, the Watan Party,

the Party for Progress and Jus-

Those who are opposed to a

change basically limited to a

one-perons-one-vote formula are: The Jordan National

Alliance, the Popular Unity

Party, the Islamic Action

Front, Al Mustakbal Party, the

Jordanian Democratic Prog-

ressive Party, the Jordanian

Communist Party, the Jorda-

nian Arab Socialist Baath Par-

ty, the Jordan People's Demo-

cratic Party, Yakadha, the

Jordanian Democratic Popular

Unity Party, the Freedom Par-

ty, the Unionist Arab Demo-

cratic Party, the Arab Baath

Party for Progress, the Popular

Jordanian Arab Party and the

Jordanian Arab Democratic

Despite their objections to a

limited change in the Election

Law, no party has said it would

boycott the elections should

such a change take place.

tice and Doa'a.

resentation of voters.

person-one-vote formula.



His Majesty King Hussein Monday meets with Mauritanian Foreign Minister Mohammad Ould

King receives Mauritanian message

AMMAN (Petra) - His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a message from Mauritanian President Sid Ahmad Ould Taya. The message, which dealt with Jordanian-Mauritanian relations and issues of common interest, was delivered to King Hussein by Mauritanian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Mohammad Ould Amin at an audience

held at the Royal Court. Mr. Amin, who arrived in Amman Sunday, also conveyed to the King the appreciation of Mr. Ould Taya and the Mauritanian people.

Expressing pride in Jordanian-Mauritanian relations, King Hussein wished Mr. Ould Taya good health and happiness and the Mauritanian people further progress and prosperity.

The King underlined the need for the Arab states to democratise and protect hu-man rights in order to achieve progress in the Arab World. The audience was attended

by Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan and His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, the King's milit-

Egyptian hijacker with hoax claim held after plane stormed

Combined agency dispatches

DUESSELDORF - Commandos stormed a hijacked KLM jetliner Monday and arrested an Egyptian hijacker who had demanded freedom for the Muslim cleric whose alleged followers include men charged on the World Trade Centre bombing.

The hijacker, whose claim that he had explosives proved false, was arrested by police commandos after emerging from a toilet in the Dutch jet, police said.

His need to use the toilet apparently gave the last two hostages, the pilot and chief steward, the chance to escape out cockpit windows via emergency ropes. Police then stormed the jet.

The hijacker had released the passengers and other crew members earlier, passengers, crew and police all said the hijacker had been unusually calm and not aggressive during the hijacking.

Police identified him as Khaled Gharib, 40, of Egypt. Duesseldorf police spokesman Ulf Steinke told a news conference there was no indication Mr. Gharib was a member or sympathiser of a particular political

The arrest, without a shot being fired, brought to an end the drama which began Sunday when 737-400 en route from Tunis to Amsterdam. He had initially demanded to

be flown to the United States, where he wanted the release of jailed Egyptian fundamentalist leader Omar Abdul Rahman, suspected of involvement in World Trade Centre bombing in which six people were killed and 1,000 injured.

But the pilot managed to per-suade him that a Boeing 737-400 did not carry enough fuel to cross the Atlantic. The plane was then flown to

Duesseldorf where it landed at 3:22 p.m. (1322 GMT) and the hijacker gave the United States until 0700 GMT to free Sheikh Abdul Rahman.

The crew had always felt in control of developments and there had been no panic, Mr. Van der Erden told Dutch Television Monday after he arrived at Amsterdam from Frankfurt aboard his own aircraft.

"We were happy to realise pretty quickly that the hijacker did not have it in for the passengers," he added. "The hijacker was very calm in spite of the noticeable tension in the cock-

Sources in the Dutch embassy in Egypt said Mr. Gharib, from after being arrested for attempted arson and managed to get on the Tunis-to-Amsterdam flight with a cancelled visa. After forcing the plane to land

at Duesseldorf's airport, the hijacker released all 131 passengers from the Boeing and, gradually, five of the plane's seven crew Germany's GSG-9 special

police unit stormed the jet at 2:01 a.m. and the hijacker did not have the 20 kilogramme of explosives he had claimed to have when he demanded the plane be flown to New York, police said.

The plane was searched after the hijacker's arrest and we found no explosives," said Mr. Steinke. who commanded the operation for Duesseldorf police. Mr. Steinke said Mr. Gharib

showed no signs of mental disturbance and was to be taken before a judge on Tuesday. The Dutch justice ministry said it did not expect to request extradition since punishment for air piracy in Germany — a minimum of five years in prison — is similar to that in the Netherlands.

Mr. Steinke said Germany was in contact with U.S. officials during the hijacking, but never intended to let the plane leave the

Lebanon the resistance would be

in Lebanon there is no one ready

to disarm the resistance or willing

to discuss disarming the resist-

ance," he said. "We are not a

police to protect the occupier."

Talks in Damascus

Syria and Lebanon, whose re-

lations are reported to have been

strained over the deployment of

Lebanese troops near the front

line with Israel, opened summit

dent Elias Hrawi, prime Minister

Rafik Al Hariri, Parliamentary

Speaker Nabih Berri, Deputy

Prime Minister Michel Al Murr

and Foreign Minister Faris

Bouez, all travelled from Beirut

for the meeting with President

Political sources in Beirut said

Officials said Lebanese Presi-

talks in Damascus Monday.

"But as long as Israel remains

frozen and stopped ...

Official spokesman confirms Muta plot arrests

AMMAN (J.T.) - The government Monday confirmed that security authorities had uncovered a plot to assassinate His Majesty King Hussein and that 10 suspects, including six students from the military wing of Muta University, were held in connection with the plot.

An official spokesman, in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, also said that the Islamic Liberation Party (ILP) was found to have been involved in the plot and four ILP leaders were among the suspects.

"Towards the end of April (1993) Security authorities uncovered a plot to assassinate His Majesty King Hussein during a graduation ceremony at Muta University in June," said the spokesman. "Six students from the military wing of Muta University were arrested.

"Investigations found that the Islamic Liberation Party was behind the plot.

"Those who took part in the plot, numbering 10 of whom four are from the leadership of the party, were referred to the prosecutor general of the State Security Court since it is the court specialised in such cases."

The spokesman did not say

when the case would be tried in court.

The ILP is one of the parties that are still illegal in the country, and did not thus far apply for legalisation, Petra said. Although 20 parties have received legal recognition since the enactment of the political parties law, the party did not apply for licence because it does not recognise the Jordanian Constitution and the National Charter, the news agency said.

For several times in the past, it has attempted to change the regime by resorting to force and violent means, but all its attempts failed. Petra added.

The security sources told the Jordan Times that the public trial at the State Security Court will begin as soon as the investigation into the case is completed, adding that two of the 10 will be tried in absentia if they are not captured before the hearings start. The sources described the suspects as a combination of "soldiers and civilians."

The Tahrir Party was established in the West Bank in the early 1950s, and had a representative in the Jordanian Parliament in 1956.

Although the organisation is known to have plotted against the regime previously, it has no history of carrying out terrorist activities to achieve its goals, principal among which is the creation of Caliphate-like Islamic states.

Giza just west of Cairo, had been Mr. Gharib seized the Boeing deported from Holland last year (Continued on page 10) Beirut rules out Israeli-sought accord

BEIRUT (R) - Lebanon ruled out any security deal with Israel but said Monday it was ready to send hundreds more troops south to the Middle East's most explosive front line.

An estimated 300 Lebanese troops took up positions a week ago in a U.N. zone facing Israel's frontlines after a seven-day Israeli air and artillery bombardment killed about 150 people and wounded more than 600.

Defence Minister Mohsen Dalloul said Lebanon would never disarm anti-Israeli guerrillas before the Jewish state withdrew its forces from a self-styled "security zone" in the south. "There will not be any military

committee or security arrangements before Israel pulls out from Lebanon no matter what the consequences are." Mr. Dalloul told Reuters in an interview. Israel has been pressing Beirut

at Middle East peace talks to agree to a mechanism to ensure security along its northern border and in the 15-kilometre wide zone it established in southern Lebanon in 1985.

Mr. Dalloul said the security of northern Israel would only be guaranteed by a political settlement reached at the peace talks based on U.N. Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. He said guerrilla attacks on

Israeli forces in the zone would continue despite the deployment of Lebanese troops in an area controlled by the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNI-

Mr. Dalloul said the token force was sent in to encourage civilians who fled during the Israeli assault to return to their villages and to resolve any local disputes. He said the force inside the

U.N. zone was backed up by two army brigades deployed to the north and added: "We can send in hundreds of soldiers within minutes if there

was any trouble."

The minister said Israel's blitz was stopped after U.S. mediation but denied there was a ceasefire agreement. Israel halted its bombardments

and pro-Iranian guerrillas stopped firing rockets into northern Israel after contacts by Washington with Lebanon. Syria and Israel. "There was no written or vocal

agreement on any specified arrangements," Mr. Dalloul said. "There was an Israeli aggression that we demanded halted and it was stopped."

attacking Israeli troops and their allies in the security zone." "When we are sure that the

He said Lebanese authorities would not move against guerrillas

the discussions would focus on the aftermath of the Israeli bombardment of southern Lebanon.

Hafez Al Assad.

They said Mr. Assad was dissatisfied with moves by the Lebanese government in the south taken without consulting Damascus.

Rockets fired at Israelis

Unidentified gunners fired

issue is over and Israel is quitting three rockets at an Israeli patrol in South Lebanon Monday, provoking retaliatory shelling on suspected guerrilla hideouts, security sources said.

The sources, said there were no casualties in the attack.

They said the rockets missed the patrol, crashing around Ahmadiyyeh hill in the eastern sector of the "security zone" at 6:05 p.m. (1505 GMT).

Israeli troops retaliated by shelling the suspected source of fire in the village of Zillaya, as well as the villages of 'Ein Tineh and Maidoun in the western sector of East Lebanon's Bekaa val-

U.N. plans appeal

A U.N. envoy said Monday the United Nations planned a \$30-million appeal for aid to rebuild South Lebanon.

Nearly all the 300,000 villagers displaced by the fighting had returned, Jan Eliasson, U.N. emergency relief coordinator. said after touring the south on

Lebanon needed the aid for both humanitarian reasons and to build stability to avoid new wounds, he said.

"I was glad to see that probably

(Continued on page 10)

Soldiers among 53 on trial in Cairo court

has charged 53 militants, including three from the army, with plotting to overthrow the government in the first such case against army personnel since the murder of President Anwar Sadat.

The militants also included members of the professional elite engineers, doctors, lawyers and university students.

Waving the Koran from behind an iron cage in the court, the defendants, wearing beards and the white robes of dedicated Muslims, urged the armed forces to rise up and defend Islam.

"The armed forces is the driving force which will liberate the Muslims. You, the army of Egypt, rise up and clear the shame from Muslims," shouted a

suspect.
"You, the army of Muslims, are our only hope," he added. Magdi Salem, another defen-dant, said: "The army of Egypt should not be dragged into side battles. The army should not be the army of a leader. It must not stay like that. The army of Egypt should rise up to defend the

Military prosecutor Brigadier-General Wagdi Al Laithi accused the militants, seven of whom are at large, of forming an illegal group and plotting to overthrow the government, assassinate public figures and possessing arms and leaflets inciting hatred against the government.

The 53 include two military cadets and an officer in a reserve unit. If convicted they could all face the death penalty.

A cadet identified as Sameeh,

18, said he was arrested at the military academy because he advocated a purist Islamic state. "I do not belong to any group or party. I was spreading Al

Dawa'a (Islamic call) among

young men in the academy," he

The controversial military courts, set up by President Hosni Mubarak to bypass normal judicial practice and ensure harsh

sent 15 men to the gallows in the rogations by police. last six months.

Militant lawyers said a civilian court verdict acquitting 24 mili-. tants on Saturday of the 1990 murder of Parliament Speaker Rifaat Al Mahjoub was a blow to the government.

The civil judge accused security forces of resorting to torture to extract confessions to justify their incompetence and impotence in catching the real culprits.

The 53 were among 248 ac-

cused to belonging to a previously unknown group, The Vanguards of the New, Holy Struggle, whose leader, Ayman Zawahri, lives in Afghanistan and Iran.

Militant lawyers said five other army officers were among the others to be tried soon. It was the first time military personnel have been implicated in militant violence in Egypt, which closely vets its police and armed forces for . traces of sympathy with Muslim militants.

Khaled Islambouli, a junior army officer, led militants from an organisation called Jihad which assassinated Mr. Sadat at a

military parade in 1981. Security sources said Mr. Zawahri, a medical doctor jailed for three years in Mr. Sadat's killing, was trying to reorganise Jihad when his group was caught.

Jihad, which advocates holy war as the only means to topple the Egyptian government and apply Islamic Sharia law, focuses on recruiting Islamists in the army on the grounds that it is theonly force capable of toppling the government.

Defendants showed journalists scars on their legs and necks which they said were from torture by electric shocks, boiling water, beatings and whipping by police to extract confessions.

"We just want to be treated as animals. The treatment we are receiving is far below animals," said Nizar Ghourab, one of the suspects, who is a lawyer. He said he would wish death rather than the Abdul Rahman.

punishment for militants, have long torture sessions and inter-

The London-based Islamic Council called Monday for Egypt to release all political prisoners following the acquittal of the 27 charged in connection with the Mahjoub' assassination.

The council described the verdict as a slap in the face of the country's President Hosni Mubatak, and in a statement called for "the strongest pressure to be put on Mubarak and his regime to cease their practice of torture and release all political

The council was set up in London in 1973, and has representatives in most European countries. It claims to be independent, and says it maintains strong links with many governments in Muslim

An official Egyptian daily Monday slammed the court for

acquitting the 27.

The editor-in-chief of Al Gumhuriya, Mahfuz Al Ansari, wrote that the court's presiding judge had acquitted the defendants despite "a wealth of evi-"dence" to convict them.

The verdict was based on the fact that security services "resorted to illegal means, including torture to obtain evidence, which may constitute "a (separate) crime which must not erase another committed in broad daylight," he argued.

Addressing himself to the judge, Mr. Ansari wrote: "Extorting confessions through torture is illegal, but what do you say of premeditated murder?"

The court verdict still needs to be ratified by President Mubarak, lawyers said.

But militant sources feared that Mr. Mubarak, acting under an emergency anti-terrorism law, would cancel the sentences and order a re-trial of the 24 as he did with preacher Sheikh Omar



Iranian Parliament, prior to deliberations on the Nateq Nouri (AFP photo)

MAJLIS DEBATE: Iranian President Akbar new cabinet ministers (see page 10). At right is Hashemi Rafsanjani addresses the Majlis, the seated Majlis Speaker Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar

Nearly 300 killed in clashes between Turkish forces, rebels

ANKARA (AFP) — Some 295 people, including 275 Kurdish rebels, died in weekend clashes between Kurdish separatists and government troops in southeastern Turkey, where demonstra-tions were held marking the ninth anniversary of the armed Kurdish rebellion.

At least 250 members of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), were killed during widespread government sweeps against a group of up to 400 rebels on Mount Buzul, located in the southeastern triangle of Cukirca, Hakkari and Yuksekova, Turkish authorities in the area said.

Commando units carried out a "cleansing" operation after fighter bombers and helicopters shelled the area for about seven hours beginning at dawn Saturday. Local authorities said six rebel groups from different regions had gathered on the mount.

They said the Turkish army was chasing some of the rebels trying to flee to Iraq and that the operation was still underway

Unal Erkan, the head of the Diyarbakir region which is under a state of emergency, said an official declaration would be made as soon as the final death

Meanwhile, at least 20 people died in weekend clashes between

Kurdish separatists and government troops in eastern Anatolia. Three people, including one PKK member, were killed Sunday near Malazgirt, in the eastern province of Mus, when government troops tried to stop a PKK demonstration that included 2,000 villagers from the area, according to a communique from

local authorities. Some 142 people, including five PKK members, were arrested and weapons were seized, authorities said.

Six rebels, including a woman, were killed Sunday in Diyadin, in the eastern region of Agri, when government troops attempted to stop a convoy of trucks at a checkpoint. One Turkish soldier was killed and another injured during an exchange of gunfire. The death toll in Diyadin bring

to 20 the number of people killed since Saturday when 10 Kurdish demonstrators died in Digor, in the eastern province of Kars.

Nearly, 7,000 people have died since the Kurds launched their insurrection in southeast Turkey

Meanwhile Ankara authorities

were Monday still unable to confirm or deny reports that Kurdish rebels had kidnapped two German tourists and a New Zealander. The supposed kidnapping was reported in Dusseldorf, Germany, on Sunday by the Kurd-Ha news agency, which is reportedly close to the rebels.

Diplomats and Turkish govern-ment officials were checking out the claim.

The claim, released in Europe said the threef foreigners - a New Zealander and two Germans - because they lacked "visas" to travel in the southeast, which the fighters would like to see become a separate Kurdistan.

Last week, the PKK released six foreigners, including four Frenchmen, an Australian woman and a Briton after holding them hostage for weeks.

Turkey's eastern and southeastern regions have become risky for travel. Several Western governments have issued warnings to their citizens to stay away from Turkey's troubled regions.

The PKK identified the three they claimed were taken Sunday were named as Albrecht Christoph Lehman and Henry Butler of Germany and Paul Thompson of

idea for fear of making the U.N.

operation appear too dominated

U.S. soldiers in an explosion on

Aug. 8, "the Americans appear

to have taken the gloves off," the

supporters gathered Sunday

morning near the former stadium

in Lenin Avenue to protest at

They carried banners proclaim-

The U.N. special envoy to

ing: "Down with Clinton" and

Somalia, Lansana Koukate, has

begun talks with leaders of Gen.

Aideed's Somali National

Alliance in a bid to stop the

clashes between the militia and

Gen. Aideed's right-hand man Mohammad Awale has said: "We

want to find a peaceful solution to

A possible solution to the U.N.-Aideed standoff, it is said

here, would be for the warlord

Meanwhile about 2,000 Aideed

But since the deaths of four

by Washington.

source said.

U.N. policies.

peacekeepers.

this conflict.

long live Aideed."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sudan coup plot trial to begin shortly

KHARTOUM (R) — The trial of 90 people, including a former army chief and a former security chief, on charges of plotting to overthrow Sudan's Islamic government will begin shortly, the head overthrow Sudan's Islamic government will begin shortly, the head of the investigating committee said. Abdul Rahman Ibrahim, quoted by the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) on Sunday, quoted by the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) on Sunday, said the investigation was almost complete and those defendants who had not fied the country were about to be tried in open court. Mr. Ibrahim said 14 of the accused were in the country and had been given the right to meet their relatives and hire lawyers to defend them. The state would provide lawyers for those unable to afford the cost of a lawyer, he said. He gave no precise date for the start of the trial and no details of the charges but the accused face life imprisonment or death if found guilty.

League envoy begins Gulf tour

CAIRO (R) - An Arab League envoy left for Saudi Arabia Monday on the start of a Gulf tour to follow up Arab promises of \$500 million in aid for southern Lebanon, badly damaged in Israeli bombardment last month. Ambassador Mayhoub Al Mayhouby told reporters the aim of his mission to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates was to implement the resolutions of a league meeting in Damascus that pledged the aid. The ambassador said he would deliver messages to Gulf leaders from league Secretary General Esmat Abdul Meguid, who is due to start a Gulf tour of his own next week. Dr. Abdul Meguid visited Beirut on Saturday seeking to ensure that Arab aid would be efficiently channelled to South Lebanon.

Chadian foes in peace pact — Libyan agency

TRIPOLI (AFP) — The Chadian government and rebels have signed a peace accord, mediated by Libya and Sudan, Libya's official JANA news agency reported Monday. The deal was signed Sunday after talks here betwen Mohammad Ali Abdullah, military advisor to Chadian President Idriss Deby, and Abbas Koty, the head of a rebel movement active in the east, JANA said. The two men had held several meetings since Wednesday, the agency said. Mr. Koty's supporters have been held responsible by the authorities in Ndjamena for a massacre of 82 people at Chokoyam in the eastern Chad region bordering on Sudan on Aug. 4. Mr. Koty, Mr. Deby's former defence minister, fled Ndjamena in June 1992 after he was accused of involvement in a foiled coup plot against the Chadian military strongman. Government radio in Chad later announced that Mr. Koty was expected in the capital following signature of the peace pact.

Seven convicted criminals hanged in Egypt ち

CAIRO (AFP) — Seven convicted murderers were hanged Monday in Egypt's biggest mass hanging of common criminals, the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported. The seven were convicted of premeditated murder in various Egyptian provinces and were executed at the Tanta prison in the Nile Delta, 80 kilometres north of Cairo. Four other convicted murderers have been hanged in recent days, the news agency added. Egyptian authorities have also executed 15 Islamic militants since June for politically-motivated attacks.

Israeli court rejects Manning appeal

TEL AVIV (AP) — The supreme court ruled Monday that Israel should extradite an American woman wanted in connection with a California murder, although she had already stood trial in the case. Rochelle Manning, 43, and her husband, Robert, are suspected of involvement in sending a booby-trapped appliance to a computer firm in Manhattan Beach in 1980. It killed a secretary, Patricia Wilkerson. All that remained now was for Justice Minister David Libai to sign Mrs. Manning's extradițion order within 60 days, said justice ministry spokeswoman Ettie eshed. Robert Manning, 41, was extradited last month after the supreme court rejected the couple's appeal that their religious Jewish needs would not be met in American prisons. Mrs. Manning launched an additional app based on double jeopardy. Unlike Robert, she had been tried for the murder in the U.S., but the jury was unable to deliver a verdict and a mistrial was declared.

2 Pakistanis killed in Kuwait blast

KUWAIT (R) - Two Pakistani soldiers have been killed in Kuwait by an explosion while trying to clear explosives left over from the 1991 Gulf war, a Pakistani diplomat said Monday. "It was a very unfortunate accident.. one of them died instantly and the other expired later in hospital." Pakistan's Ambassador Karamatullah Khan Ghori told Reuters. The bodies of the two soldiers, Nazir Ahmad, 30, and Mohammad Sadiq, 38, were fown to Pakistan after Wednesday's explosion. Three other Pakistanis were hurt in the blast, one seriously.

U.S. lawmaker plans Demjanjuk's return

TEL AVIV — A U.S. congressman said Monday he planned to escort John Demjanjuk home from Israel this week after the former American autoworkers' acquittal as a Nazi guard. James Traficant, a Democrat from Mr. Demjanjuk's home state of Ohio, said he expected Israel's supreme court to reject demands by holocaust survivors. Nazi hunters and others that Mr. Demianjuk stand trial for other alleged war criminals. The court will rule Wednesday. "I am convinced that he will be released. He was extradited here as "Ivan." It's evident he is not "Ivan," Min Traficant told Reuters.

Iranian prosecutor commits suicide

TEHRAN (R) - An Iranian provincial prosecutor has killed himself, leaving behind a letter saying he had got into trouble for reporting official wrongdoings, Salam newspaper said on Monday. Mohsen Khodaverdi, who had served for more than 10 years as prosecutor in Rasht, a provincial capital near the Caspian coast shot himself with a pistol, it said. "It has been learned that Mr. Khodaverdi has left behind a detailed letter in which he pointed and reports he had made about wrongdoings attributed to judicial and other officials and said those reports caused some problems for him," Salam said. The paper urged judicial authorities to make the

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Of Students Stationary Our Prices & Quality Unbeatable **Amman Commercial Complex** Al - Abdali - opp.to Parliament house.

.N.changes tactics in Somalia were on standby alert. condition of anonymity, said the Americans initially scrapped that "We didn't want any interfer-

MOGADISHU (Agencies) -Three companies of U.S. soldiers surrounded a handful of houses ence because it was a populated in southern Mogadishu before dawn Sunday, then forced their way in without gunfire to search for weapons.

It-was a new tactic in the standoff in this embattled city between the 28-nation military coalition under the blue U.N. flag and the militia of renegade warlord General Mohammad Farrah

"We've taken fire in that area in the past," Major David Stockwell told reporters. "This was a way to do it smarter '

Some observers also saw the operation as a possible dress rehearsal for an attempt to capture Gen. Aideed, wanted by the United Nations in the ambush slayings of 24 Pakistani peacekeepers on June 5.

The U.N. military force has conducted a number of arms searches in the same area in recent weeks, but always with far fewer men covering a much larger terri-

This time more than 300 members of the U.S. Army's Quick Reaction Force (QRF) cordoned off an area less than a block square and used loud speakers to order out the inhabitants of houses thought to hold arms

Blackhawk helicopters hovered overhead, Maj. Stockwell said, and Cobra helicopter gunships

area, so we told some folks to stay inside and told the folks inside the area to come on out,"

said Maj. Stockwell, the U.N. military spokesman. "There was some resistance, and I sort of take that to mean that some of the folks inside the houses were a little bit stubborn, so we had to use a little cs

(teargas) and concussion gre-nades..." Maj. Stockwell said. "There were no casualties as a result of our pyrotechnics," he Maj. Stockwell said the raid was prompted by an informant's

tip, but produced only "nickle and dime small arms stuff." Three Somalis were taken into custody for questioning, he said.

Jonathan Howe, the retired .S. admiral who heads the U.N.'s Somali operation, ordered Gen. Aideed's arrest on June 16

and put a \$25,000 reward on his Mr. Howe has acknowledged that U.N. forces came close to capturing the warlord at least

twice, and have passed on other opportunities for fear of causing unnecessary civilian casualties. When the search for Gen. Aideed began, the United Nations reportedly considered using a specially trained U.S. unit, such

as a Delta Force team, to try to capture him. A U.N. official, speaking on

general to go into exile, perhaps in Yemen. But there has been no indication that Gen. Aideed would agree to leave. Aideed's supporters maintain they are not responsible for the

harrassment of U.N. troops. It is said that several Somalian sub-clans could be trying to profit from the clashes to weaken Gen. Aideed's Hebr Gedir clan.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

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PROGRAMME TWO	623
18:09 Omniscineces	ĀB
18:35 Maguy	628
19:00 News in French	Ara
19:15 Varieties	771
19:30 News in Hebrew	Am
28:09 News in Arabic	775
20:30 People Next Door	St.
21:00 Faces and Places	Ām
21:36 A Kind of Magic 22:06 News in English	652
22:00 News in English	Eva
22:20 Angels with Dirty Faces	824
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PRAYER TIMES	Day

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St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sw	elffeb.
Tcl. 810740 Assemblies of God Church,	Tel.
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Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Saints Tel. 823824, 654932 rch of Nazarene Tel.675691,

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USEFUL TELEPHO!
NUMBERS
NUMBERS
NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Nidal Al Mahsiri 75
Dr. Hanna Mansour 77
Dr. Mohammad Al Azzeh 75
Dr. Jum'a Abu Dhiab, 74
Fires pharmacy 66
Ferdows pharmacy 77
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Dr. Nidal Al Mahsiri 751672
Dr. Hanna Mansour
Dr. Mohammad Al Azzeh 752971
Dr. Jum'a Abu Dhiab 748848
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EMERGENCIES
Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency
Fire Brigade 801228
BIOOG Bank
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department
Hotel Complaints
Water and Sewerage
Complaints
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111

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FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

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Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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Okra	50
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Popper (sweet)	300 / 300
Tomato	, 230/ 150
Sweetmelon	240/150
Watermelon	140/60
	

MARKET PRICES over price in fils per kg. 380/200

Banana (Mukammar)



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Monday meets with renown Egyptian writer and journalist Mohammad Heikal (Petra photo)

Heikal says Arabs should close ranks

AMMAN (Petra) — Egyptian writer and journalist Mohammad Hasanein Heikal Monday voiced riasanem rietkai Monoay voices
his appreciation of His Majesty

lext week. b

and Abba k. In an interview with the Jana Jana Sairt. News Agency, Petra, following a Jana Sairt. News Agency Prime Minister JANA said he seeker and the said all Arab countries at Chokova.

Heikal said all Arab countries are to support Jordan in its e at Chokora. Heikal said all Arab countries e at Chokora ought to support Jordan in its ena in June je quest to reestablish Arab solidar-coup plot are ity and enhance the march of

There is urgent need for the Arab states to close their ranks and rise above their petty differences and transcend the present difficulties," said Mr. Heikal in

his statement. Unless they accomplish this and play an active role in the shaping of the modern world, they will find themselves manipulated by other nations, warned

Expressing support for Jordan's democratic process. Mr.

Heikal said Jordan will pluy a leading role in the region and therefore it ought to be helped and supported in its endeavours by other Arab countries.

Asked to comment on the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations. Mr. Heikal said he was not optimistic, adding that the fate of the negotiations is closely linked to what is happening on the ground.

Dr. Majali and Mr. Heikal reviewed several Arab and international issues.

Majali orders contact with Arab League through proper channel

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Monday issued a circular to government departments instructing them to refrain from making contacts with the Arab League General Secretariat or other Arab League agencies directly.

All contacts and correspondence with the league, said the circular, should be conducted through the Foreign Ministry

In the circular, the prime minister said that it was noticed that several ministries and other official government departments have been making direct contact with the Arab League in Cairo without notifying the Foreign Ministry. Such practice could complicate matters for the government and embarrass the Foreign Ministry, said the circular.

The Foreign Ministry is the sole government department authorised to address the Arab League and all other Arab and foreign organisations and gov-

ernments, it noted. Dr. Majali said different government departments can channel all their correspondence with the Arab League through the Foreign Ministry.

JPA was not consulted on code of honour — statement

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Jordan Press Association (JPA) Monday issued a statement declaring that the JPA was not a party to or even consulted on the proposed press code of honour, as outlined last Friday by Information Minis-ter Ma'an Abu Nowar.

According to the statement, the JPA reaffirms its commitment to the JPA Law which it said grants it independence and freedom to organise matters related to the journalism profession and journalists' affairs.

The JPA Council reaffirms its total commitment to the JPA Law and does not accept tutelage or interference in its affairs by any party-official or otherwise. said the statement issued following a regular session of the JPA Council chaired by its president, Suleiman Al Qudah.

The council members studied the projected press code of hon-



Ma'an Abu Nowar

our and decided to issue Monday's statement.

The JPA Council learned of the contents of this proposed code from the local press, added the statement.



The council, the statement added, would like to reiterate its commitment to the Jordanian Constitution and to upholding the national interests and respect for and abidance by the country's existing laws.

JPA members are totally committed to the oath they took when they were sworn in, vowing to remain faithful to the homeland and the King, carry out their duties and practice journalism with loyalty, safeguard the pro-fession and respect laws related

to it, added the statement. The minister of information had said that he presented the proposal of enacting a press code of honour to the JPA president. adding that such a charter would be endorsed only after consultations with the journalists, writers

The JPA statement stressed the association's commitment to the Arab Press Charter of 1972, endorsed by the Third Conference of the Arab Journalists Union. It said the conference had reaffirmed two important points: freedom and responsibility in the

iournalists work.

the capital & Situation nged in Eq. deteriorates derers were the in occupied reported. The in various is territories victed murdent ency added [g-- report ilitants since le

AMMAN (Petra) - The general situation in the Israeli-occupied 3 appeal Arab lands has deteriorated to a serious level over the past months ed Monday that mainly because of Israel's imposid in connection it tion of a siege on the West Bank stood tradingle and Gaza Strip, according to a ben, are store monthly report released Monday pliance to a me by the Foreign Ministry's Occua secretary P. pied Territories Affairs Departlustice Minus i ment.

er within olds. The report quoted figures Roben Manus given by Betselem, an Israeli ne count reject human rights group, which noted eds would not that the Israeli forces were now d an additional: killing more young Palestinian she had been to boys than they had over the past ble to deliverar 25 years of occupation.

The group recorded 187 Palestinian children killed by raeli forces since the start of the fittifada in 1987, including 38 in have been a the first six months of 1993, the ar explosively report added.

t said Monda It quoted secret documents died instants: whose contents were allegedly Ambassadork leaked to foreign circles and were is of the most said to reveal the presence of a q. 38, were r plan by the Israeli municipality of other Paksez Jerusalem to completely obliterate the Arab religious and cultu-

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A Palestinian boy is evacuated last April, seconds after being shot in the leg by an Israeli soldier who within half an hour wounded five

boys with his sniper fire in the Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood of Gaza City (AFP photo)

ral characters of the holy city to facilitate its Judaisation process. Haaretz an Israeli daily said several existing Arab and Islamic sites would be removed including aucient walls and sites adjacent to the Al Haram Al Sharif, (the Dome of the Rock), the report

noted. In the past month, the foreign ministry report said, Israeli authorities continued their cam-

paigns against Christian and Islamic holy places, desecrating holy sites and closing several mosques in Jerusalem, Nablus, Ramallah and Al Birch

Israel continued the confiscation of Arab-owned lands and so far has seized 3,080,725 dunums of land in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip the report pointed

It said the lands are being seized for the construction of more Jewish settlements, adding that to date, 186 settlements have been crected on the West Bank and 20 in the Gaza Strip.

Furthermore, the Israeli courts last month passed verdiers on 145 Palestinian citizens who are imprisoned for periods ranging from several months to several years, the report said.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Kaabneh reviews military drills

Japanese official ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Lieutenant-General Abdul Hafez Mirai Al Kaabneh Monday watched military drills by one of the formations of the 12th Royal Mechanised Division, Lt Gen. Kaabneh was briefed on the division's training programmes. The drill included target shooting with live ammunition by the division's various machinery, with air support by fighter planes and helicopters.

AMMAN (Petra) — Director of the first Middle East division at the Japanese foreign ministry Akio Tanaka Monday wound up a three-day visit to Jordan. During his stay in Amman, Mr. Tanaka held talks with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Sata'an Al Hassan and several officials on the Middle East peace process and Japan's role in pushing the process forward. Mr. Tanaka also discussed with officials here Jordanian-Japanese relations and means to enhance them.

Ministry studies nutrition programme

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education Monday decided to conduct an evaluation study of the ministry's nutrition programme implemented at government-run schools. Director of the ministry's Educational Development and Research Department Wajih Al Faraj said the department is currently carrying such a study to enable the ministry to decide properly on the issue. The research team conducting the study, said Mr. Faraj.

designed four questionnaires. One was directed at principals of schools benefitting from the nutrition programme, another at the teacher responsible for carrying out the programme in the same school, the third at the directors of the programme in various areas of Jordan and the fourth at parents of students benefitting from the programmes.

Tankers to fill up on potable water

AMMAN (Petra) - Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas Monday issued instructions to owners of water tankers requesting them to only fill their vehicles with chlorinated, potable water and only from licensed water wells. He also ordered them to paint the tankers green and re-paint them when needed. The minister's instructions call on truck owners to write "potable water" clearly on both sides of the tanker. They also demand that drivers of tunkers carry with them papers certifying that they are free of communicable diseases and that their tankers are carrying potable water. The truckers are also required to take receipts from the owners of private wells or directors of water sources whenever they fill their tanks.

Returnee compensation panel meets

AMMAN (Petra) - A committee following up the issue of compensating Jordanian exputriates who returned from Kuwait during the Gulf crisis met Monday under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour Khaled Al Ghzawi, and discussed arrangements and measures taken by its information and financial sub-committees.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

☆ Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Bishara Najjar at Eshbelia Art Gallery, Amra Shopping Centre. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian beritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and natural scenery.

 ★ Exhibition of a new collection of art works by Princess Wildam Ali at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter. Continental.

☆ Exhibition of paintings by 25 Jordanian artists at the Royal

Cultural Centre. ☆ Exhibition by Iraqi artists Mohammad Hussein Judi and Shawkat Al Alousi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

A Lecture entitled "The Levantine Mousterian and the Emergence of Modern Behaviours" by Dr. Donald O. Henry of the University of Tulsa at 7 p.m. at the American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR)

JERUSALEM FESTIVAL

☆ Exhibition of paintings, posters, Palestinian costumes, books and other items on the Holy City of Jerusalem at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation

★ Exhibition of books on various subjects at Al Hashimieh Plaza, downtown Amman.

☆ Seminar, in Arabic, entitled "The Novel - Experience and Dialogue" at 6.30 p.m. at the Abdul Hamced Shoman Foundation.



Opening Reception

You are personally invited to the opening of the new Triumph International shop, to view the latest collections of Triumph lingerie, nightwear, swimwear, and leisure wear. The shop will be open from 6:00 pm on Tuesday August 17, in the Abdullah Hakooz Commercial Complex, Al Swaifia, Amman.

Triumph. For the Way you are

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Justice and the right to know

IN 1945, Kent Cooper coined an expression that later became the subject of heated debate in the U.S.: "The public has the right to know."

This article of faith in the free flow of information is no longer a subject of controversy, especially after it became codified in international human rights conventions such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Yet this right to know remains a controversy in this part of the world in spite of the fact Jordan and other Middle Eastern states have all ratified the ICCPR.

Take for example, 'the news about' the reported plot to assassinate His Majesty the King. Many Jordanians had first heard it through no other than Israeli radio and television and some foreign newscasts. Would it not have been infinitely more useful and right if they heard the news about the plot directly from Jordanian sources?

True, there may have been a legal impediment to releasing the news while an investigation was being conducted, especially if any revelations were going to hinder the course of justice or interfere with it. But such constraint cannot possibly explain the lid of secrecy that has been imposed so far on the arrest of 30 Jordanians as far back as April and May as conspirators in the alleged plot.

Leaving the news to be revealed by international news agencies, only to be used as grist for the rumour mills, serves no interest except to put Jordan and Jordanians in a difficult position.

All countries have various degrees of state security problems and Jordan is no exception. This is not to diminish the seriousness of the charges levelled against the 10 Jordanians who will stand trial later on this month, two of them in absentia. On the contrary, all plotters against the sovereign deserve the stiffest punishment. Yet even though the case against the accused is shocking to all of us who believed that with the introduction of democracy domestic peace is nearly secured, we must at all times be prepared to handle such situations, calmly and collectively.

The love, respect and loyalty that His Maiesty commands among his people are too firm, too strong to be shaken by any person, or group of people. Plots against him and the state can therefore only strengthen this people's resolve to back their leader and fight for the ideals and achievements adopted and made under his leadership.

But as the era of martial law is over and the Kingdom is in the midst of a democratisation process unprecedented in the Arab World, there is cause to believe that due process of the law will be observed during the investigation of the case against the alleged plotters as well as during their trial. Democracy may have not been served well by concealing news about the early arrests of the suspected individuals and keeping many of them incommunicado without the benefit of early legal counsel or visitation from their families. It is not too late, however, to prove that the rule of law is the solid basis of our democracy. In fact, this is the right time to both do justice and protect our democratic march in one go.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE FIRST stage of constitutional preparations for holding the coming parliamentary elections has now ended, and steps are taken towards ending the second and third stages, culminating with the election, said Al Dustour daily Monday. Updating the voter lists and announcing the candidates, to be followed by the election campaigns, are the a next stages in the process preceding the Nov. 8 elections, said the daily. The paper expressed satisfaction that nearly 1.5 million people have now registered to vote, something, the paper said, that reflects the Jordanian. people's realisation of importance of these elections as part of the ongoing democratisation process in the Kingdom. The registration of the great number of people to vote also reflects the Jordanian people's confidence in the election system being fair and free and allowing them to put the right persons in Parliament, continued the daily. Keenness on the part of the electorate to register and the participate in the elections is by itself a clear manifestation of the people's determination to pursue all efforts to enhance democracy in Jordan, it added. The paper expressed hope that the coming elections will witness a great turnout of voters not only exercising their right of choosing their representatives for the coming four years but also keen on ensuring a fair and free voting system for the years to come.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily lauded the efforts of the Ministry of Education for directing young people's attention towards vocational training which can ensure for them a decent living. Tareq Masarweh said that while these efforts are appreciated, it is incumbent upon the Labour Ministry to pave the ground for the trained men and women to earn a decent living by controlling the trades and workshops around the country through issuing licences only to those actually trained to operate as mechanics, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, etc. He said that the country abounds with many unskilled tradesmen who have obtained licences to open workshops and garages, but offer very bad service to the public since they have missed proper vocational training. The writer suggested that the government lease plots of land to the college graduates, giving them loans to enable them to grow crops and green the country. The writer said that the Jordanian workforce should not only be directed towards trades. but the government should also help the youth earn their living by opening the door and providing the facilities to ensure the realisation of at objective.

The View from Fourth Circle

Signs of hope amidst the humiliation and the scepticism

THE flurry of developments in Arab-Israeli relations in the last month may be seen in the future as an important psychological milestone on the path to a negotiated peace settlement, even though current popular perception may see things in a more pessimistic light. Four particular events lead me to this conclusion: the recent Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the formation of a PLO-mandated coordinating committee to guide the Palestinian negotiators, the American government's apparent frustration with the slow pace of the peace talks and the acceptance by the 400-plus Palestinian expellees in South Lebanon to return home in stages. All four factors are signs of past ways fading away, and of new dynamics that will define the path of Arab-Israeli relations in the future.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon, like all previous Israeli military actions in Lebanon, is already being seen as a failure, in that it cannot generate peace along the Israeli-Lebanese border. The Israelis have repeatedly invaded and occupied southern Lebanon with the declared aim of stopping guerrilla raids and rocket attacks, but the raids and the attacks have never stopped. The only thing that Israel has achieved with its non-stop militarism is to give rise to a new foe in Lebanon in the form of the Islamist Hizbollah group, which now joins the Palestinians and the leftist Lebanese nationalists in struggling for Arab rights in that area. Intelligent Israelis remember that the aim of the Peace in Galilee Operation in 1982 was to pacify the Lebanese-Israeli frontier and they must be questioning themselves as to why — more than a decade later — they have to repeat the same tactics, but this time against new Arab foes.

It is clear that militarism by Arabs or Israelis — however furious, passionate, destructive or repetitive it may be - is not going to resolve the essential political problem between Arabs and Israelis. This will require a political negotiation and the ongoing peace talks will now be strengthened by the formation of the PLO-mandated Palestinian coordinating committee that includes Tunis-based PLO officials and Palestinians from the occupied territories.

The most important historical development here is the ease with which Israel has accommodated itself to negotiating with what is clearly a PLO team — despite Israel's repeated assertions that it would never negotiate with the PLO. Israeli officials rationalise this important change in many different ways and it is their right to engage in the politics of make-believe and mythology. The important substantive point is that the Israeli government and the PLO are now effectively negotiating a peace agreement and this should be

We on the Arab side are doing things today that we always said we

would never do, such as working out transitional self-governing (autonomy) arrangements and pondering jurisdictional configurations for Jerusalem that satisfy Arab and Israeli demands. The fact that Arabs and Israelis alike are accepting compromise deals is a

positive development, rather than a sign of weakness.

An important aspect of the new Palestinian committee is the symbolism of how Palestinians are slowly coming to terms with the hard choices that must be made if the peace talks are to succeed. It is more and more clear that the Palestinians and the other Arab parties will not get everything they demand in one stroke of the peace pen. The negotiating process will take a long time and gains will be made in small, incremental steps, with each step requiring a compromise on

previously absolutist positions.

Fact is that, both Israelis and Palestinians will have to make substantial compromise for peace and stability, but for the moment the pressure is almost totally on the Palestinians. This is why there is so much scepticism in the Arab camp. It is natural to witness the sorts of stresses and tensions within the Palestinian negotiating team that we are now witnessing. It is also a sign of great maturity that these stresses are being resolved through dialogue and internal comprom-

The Israelis will soon have to go through the same process, and it is obvious to most Israeli political figures that they run the risk of severe strains within the Israeli society when they have to make the tough choices that lie ahead. The most feared internal Israeli development is the advent of domestic violence by rightwing groups, especially those whose political ideology is closely tied to the continuation of Jewish settlements and Zionist colonialisation in Palestine. The Israelis will probably have to go through a period of internal violence similar to the one the Palestinians experienced in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when anti-compromise Palestinians and their Arab backers waged a campaign of violence against the Arafat- and Fateh-led forces that chose the path of compromise and negotiations.

The climbdown by the 400 Palestinian expellees in southern Lebanon is also an important political signal, even though it is personally humiliating to them and their supporters in Hamas and other Arab circles. The agreement to return home in stages (which they rejected months ago) is a sign that rigid, absolutist negotiating positions usually do not pay off. The lessons learned on the slopes of southern Lebanon should have a positive impact on the negotiations in the future, by prompting both sides to be more realistic, patient and conciliatory. Israel should recognise that its militarism will not

bring it the goals it desires and the Palestinians should learn that rejectionism will not pave the way for achieving Palestinian national

The American posture is also interesting in view of the above objectives and rights. developments. The United States government has signalled in impatience with the peace talks, saying that progress must be many this way of the state this year or it will leave the Arabs and the Israelis to work things out for themselves. This is offered as something of a threat by Washington, but from our perspective perhaps we should see it as a sign of hope because, in the end, peace and stability will have to be worked out directly by the Arabs and the Israelis.

The intervention of the United States in the Arab-Israeli conflict

has been a disaster for the Arabs, given Israel's heavy reliance on American political and military support to maintain the unjust status quo. A reduced American role in the area and more pressure on the Arabs and Israelis to work things out on their own are probably desirable, in view of Washington's recent pro-Israeli posture in the region. The advent of direct PLO-Israeli talks suggests that the traditional stumbling blocs to peace are slowly being eroded, while the increasingly obvious futility of militarism and rejectionism by both sides are good signs of hope for progress in the peace talks.

Critical in this vision of the future is the element of time; for

breakthroughs in the negotiations will not happen suddenly. The original timeframe at the Mardid peace conference envisaged agreement on an interim self-governing Palestinian authority within about a year, and this is still a long way off. We would be doing well it we agreed on this first transitional stage by the end of 1994, entered; into serious talks for the final status peace arrangements in 1996-1997 and started to implement the final status accords by the end of this

The psychological baggage that burdens both sides in the peace talks is heavy and substantial. It cannot be shed in a matter of months. The accumulated fears, anger and mistrust that have been generated by nearly a century of Arab-Zionist warfare in Palestine will need many years to be overcome, and the failed old ways of hardline military and political action by both sides can only be discarded through a slow, persistent process of psychological detente leading to national coexistence and reconciliation. The important signs we have witnessed in the last month suggest that this process is well underway. Its historic importance should not be overlooked.

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Swiss Bosnian refugees help prepare war crimes trial

By Mitya New Reuter

BERNE - Bosnian Muslims are giving Swiss authorities chilling accounts of atrocities in their home country, hoping they will help bring the guilty before an international war crimes tribunal. Switzerland, together with other countries to have accepted refugees from war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina, has responded to a United Nations request to gather information from refugees for use in a planned trial of war criminals involved in the conflict.

The court, to be based in The Hague, will try cases involving grave breaches of the Geneva conventions, violations of the 1948 convention against genocide, and other serious crimes against humanity and the laws of

These include mass killings, murder, rape, torture, pillage, the wanton destruction of property and "ethnic cleansing" forced removal of people from their homes because of their religious or ethnic roots.

The refugees tell of children shot before their parents' eyes, camp internees forced to torture fellow detainees and people, who for years had been friendly neighbours, viciously turning on each

"A lot of the accounts we have heard from the refugees so far shows that some people in the war relish torture for torture's sake rather than just killing people," a Swiss investigating magistrate told Reuters.

The magistrate, one of 30 who volunteered to question the group of 50 Bosnian refugees willing to provide detailed information, asked not to be named to protect those he had interviewed from reprisals.

Some Muslims were held for six days without being given anything to eat, he said. When their Serb captors offered them a meal. they were given 90 seconds to eat it and the last one to finish would be shot dead. "Not only did they have about

the one-and-a-half minutes to eat, but they had to negotiate a corridor, where the floor had been smeared with oil, to get to the room with the food," the magistrate added, quoting from an account by one refugee who succeeded in fleeing.

"Anyone who slipped and fell was kicked and rifle-butted by the guards standing on both sides of the corridor.

He would not say where the atrocities took place, nor reveal any information about the Bosnian who detailed them, saying only that the account had been independently corroborated by other refugees he and other magistrates had questioned.

Eventually, in solidarity with each other, the group made sure they all finished their meals at precisely the same time to ensure no-one was shot," he added. Another refugee's ordeal

started when his village was attacked with grenade-launchers. The villagers fled burning houses and hid on an island in a nearby river for three days. Finally, with nowhere to go

ped of valuables and then interned in various camps. In the camp the refugee was

forced to share a room of around

40 square metres with 300 other The only way of getting any sleep was to have one-third of the people lie down, one-third kneel and one-third stand and to rotate

this formation in shifts throughout the night. Those nearest the door were dragged away for questioning and

often returned severely beaten. Some subsequently died of their The refugee; was switched

through a number of camps, in one of which he was briefly reunited with his wife, who had been raped in her camp. After six months of internment

the Muslim was put on a covoy of buses with a group of old and young men and driven under guard into the mountains.

"The buses halted and the old men were set free, but the young were shot dead or thrown over cliffs," the magistrate said.

The refugee managed to escape by hiding among the old men. He then succeeded in escaping through the mountains across the



gers surrendered to Serb forces. border of Bosnia-Herzegovina
They were divided by sex, stripand was later given temporary asylum in Switzerland.

The accounts from the refugees, which will be sent to the United Nations in September, will not serve as testimony but as a pool of information for prosecutors to use.

The trial, which will be the first international tribunal of its kind since the allied powers set up courts in Nuremberg and Tokyo after World War II to try leading Axis war criminals, faces great difficulties.

Unlike at Nuremberg and Tokyo, the victors will not be trying the vanquished. The former republics of Yugoslavia will not have surrendered unconditionally to foreign powers determined to bring war criminals before a court.

"Anyone in former Yugoslavia accused of war crimes could be pretty sure they would not be extradited by their governments to face the tribunal," said one Geneva-based diplomat. "They would just have to make sure they never left their home coun-

At Nuremberg, much evidence was culled from captured German military files, but no such documents are likely to be available from former Yugoslavia.

The bulk of suspected war criminals are assumed to be Serbs. although there have also been reports of atrocities by Croats and Muslims. A list of potential defendants

published last December by the United States included Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Bosnian Serb military Commander General Ratko

Yugoslavia, now comprising Serbia and Montenegro, has told the United Nations it considers the tribunal would be unfair since it would focus solely on alleged war crimes committed in the Bosnian conflict and not worldwide.

Rabin's quiet concessions anger Israeli right

By Jack Redden Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM -Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is wing Israelis who always suspected Middle East peace talks would lead to a slippery slope of concessions.

The naming of Palestinian tine Liberation Organisation last week - dismissed by the government as unimportant — was the latest step in a steady erosion of once sacrosanct Israeli positions.

The moves towards direct talks with the PLO have been paraileled by comments alerting Israelis to expect a major, or even complete, withdrawal from the Golan Heights to secure peace with Syria.

Whether he has a long-held plan or a piecemeal, pragmatic realisation of what is necessary to reach Middle East peace, Mr. Rabin has been shifting positions ever since taking office more than a year ago.

There was a wall," former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir complained after Mr. Rabin allowed the breaching of the barrier erected to prevent direct talks with the "murderous" PLO. "The Rabin government has

done everything to demolish that wall," said Mr. Shamir, whose rightwing Likud Party was ousted by Mr. Rabin's Labour Party in June 1992. But Mr. Shamir, who entered

peace talks in October 1991 under U.S. pressure, said concessions on the PLO were "dwarfed" by those on the Golan Heights, captured in 1967 and all but formally annexed by an earlier Likud government in 1981. Mr. Shamir, who vowed never to trade one inch of land for peace with Arabs, said Mr. Rabin was planning a total withdrawal from the Golan in return for full normalisation of relations with

The Rabin government plays down talk of compromise. But an aide to Mr. Rabin said when he took office that a key task was to shift public opinion from the old positions.

Under Mr. Shamir, any contact by an Israeli with the PLO was illegal: A peace campaigner went to prison for carrying his appeal to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. Mr. Shamir began peace talks only after demanding Palestinian negotiators come from the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip

and not show links to the PLO. That stand was methodically eroded under Mr. Rabin. The ban on private contacts with the PLO was abolished in January and 10 days later a member of parliament from Mr. Rabin's party visited Mr. Arafat at his Tunis

headquarters. Last month Environment Minister Yossi Sarid met a PLO official in Cairo. The story was leaked and Mr. Rabin acknowledged he knew about the "unofficial" meeting in advance.

On Friday, Culture Minister Shulamit Aloni confirmed to-

Reuters she also had met a PLO official. Now, at the session of peace. talks convening in Washington on August 30, Israeli negotiators will fuelling the worst fears of right- be facing members of a PLO committee, something unthink-:able in the decades since the

organisation was formed to fight Israel in 1964. About the only remaining taboo is negotiating with a PLO member from outside the occupied territories, which would raise the question of the millions of Palestinians who still seek the right to return to some part of he original Palestine.

With the Syrians, the position on the chief subject — the Golan Heights where the countries fought two wars - has also

"Mr. Rabin has preserved the image that won him election. offsetting any public concern over compromises with an ironfisted approach to security. His popularity is high following Israel's fierce bom. bardment of Lebanon last month. If he can make Israelis feel safe while ending 45 years of war through compromise, he knows his position will be secure,"

Yossi Ben-Aharon, Mr. Shamir's uncompromising negotiator with Syria, would not contemplate any withdrawal from the plateau that dominates adjoining Syrian and Israeli land.

Mr. Rabin, when seeking election, proposed minor border changes to secure peace. Since then the area has grown continually, to the point where Police Minister Moshe Shahal said last week Israelis were ready to return all the land.

That spurs fears of rightwing Israelis that peace talks will end in the return of most land captured in the 1967 Middle East war, land they want for both ideological and strategic reasons. But so far they have failed to

ignite popular alarm. Opposition is concentrated in the Jewish settlers of the occupied territories. Instead, Mr. Rabin has proserved the image that won him

election, offsetting any public concern over compromises with an iron-fisted approach to security. His popularity is high following Israel's fierce bombardment of Lebanon last month.

If Mr. Rabin can make Israelis feel safe while ending 45 years of war through compromise, he knows his position will be secure and their rightwing opposition that feared negotiations will be



Nativism proposal | Scientists fleshing out bones of Spain's prehistoric past provokes outcry

By Sally Streff Buzhee The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — California Gov. Pete Wilson's call to stop giving illegal aliens welfare, health care and education - and to stop granting citizenship to their American-born children - was attacked as coldhearted and un-American.

"What he wants to do is basically create a tremendous underclass of second-class citizens." said Roberto Martinez, who monitors immigrant abuse for the American Friends Service Committee. "And that will just mean more hostility, and possibly vio-

The chorus of politicians calling for an immigration crackdown has swelled recently since the bombing of the World Trade Centre, allegedly by Muslim ex-tremists, and the arrival of boatloads of Chinese refugees on U.S. shores.

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The Republican governor said citizens of other countries are robbing the state of \$2.3 billion in

services each year.
"We are compelled to cut aid to the needy, blind, disabled and elderly in California in order to comply with federal mandates to provide services to illegal immigrants," Mr. Wilson said Tuesday near San Clemente, where a fence is being built to prevent illegal immigrants from running across the freeway to evade the border patrol.

States that offer generous benefits, such as California, Florida and Illinois, have become magnets for illegal aliens, the gov-ernor said. Cutting off benefits is the only way to stop the immig-

rants from coming, he said. Mr. Wilson faces a tough reelection campaign next year, in part because of the state's economic woes. He recently signed a budget that cut most state services by about 11 per cent and reduced welfare and health-care

"What can I say? He's just trying to score some votes on the backs of immigrants," said Raymond Uzeta, San Diego

300,000 illegal immigrants enter the United States each year. California absorbs about half of all immigrants, legal and illegal, they

Mr. Wilson said illegal aliens account for about 2 million of his state's 31.5 million residents. And two-thirds of all babies born in Los Angeles' public hospitals are the children of illegal immigrants, he said.

He called on the federal govcrument to buttress efforts by the border patrol and the Immigra-tion and Naturalisation Service with more money and manpower. Mr. Wilson also asked that Mr. Clinton work to repeal federal

mandates that make illegal immigrants eligible for health care, education and other benefits. And in the most controversial part of his plan, he said the constitution should be amended to deny citizenship to U.S.-born

children of illegal immigrants. Silvia Argueta, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Un-ion, complained that the suggestion "goes against the grain of what this country is founded on."

In July, Mr. Clinton asked Congress to appropriate millions for additional border guards and proposed legislation to make it easier to exclude undocumented aliens whose requests for political asylum are clearly bogus.

Both of California's senators, Democrats Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, applauded Mr. Clinton's plan and have been pressing for action against illegal immigrants on their own.

A recent Newsweck poll showed 60 per cent of those surveyed felt immigration is a bad thing for the country.

Critics disputed Mr. Wilson's assertion that illegal immigrants come to America to take advantage of the welfare system.

Don Villarejo of the California Institute for Rural Studies in Davis said recent Labour Department studies show many illegals eligible for federal and state programmes do not take advantage of them, out of fear or for cultural

"It's jobs that bring them bere," he said. "The kinds of low-paying jobs that the rest of us won't do. Alfredo Madero Lopez, a 27-

year-old undocumented immig-rant from Guatemala, said that life in the United States is anyBy John Pollack

SANTO DOMINGO DE SILOS. Spain - With the zeal of A crusader, Jorge Maria Rivero began digging months ago in a cave in north central Spain, intent on finding evidence of his ancestors -

The Associated Press

and yours. The amateur paleontologist may have hit pay dirt in May in the cave near this medieval town when he uncarthed a human skull that he says exhibits characteristies of both prehistoric and mod-

ern man. The skull, whose significance has yet to be determined by experts, is the latest in a recent series of discoveries of prehistoric remains in Spain.

The findings have kindled speculation that much more than previously thought remains of the dinosaurs and primative humans who once toamed the Iberian

Coincidentally, Spain's maturing scientific community is finally able to excavate sites that long lay fallow for lack of money or adequate training.

"Spain is rich in deposits, and a lot remains to be uncovered. It hasn't been excavated as intensively as other countries," said Jose Luis Arsuaga, a professor of paleontology at Madrid's Com-plutense University, who last year found three 300,000-yearold human skulls near Burgos in north central Spain.

Mr. Arsuaga and his colleagues published a study of the skulls in the April 8 issue of nature, showcasing both Spain's potential as a source of prehistoric remains and Spanish scientific talent.

Mr. Rivero, who believes that early man evolved on the Iberian Peninsula, not in Africa, has sent a bone sample from the skull he found to the Miguel Crusafont Institute near Barcelona for

"I'm not searching for trea-sure, I'm looking for the origin of he said. man."

Just this year, scientists also dug up the bones of a 200,000year-old mammoth, footprints of various mammals thought to date back 20 million years and puzzling bones from an unidentified species of dinosaur.

"I've been at this for 40 years, and I've never seen anything like it," said Eudald Carbonell, a professor of prehistory at Tarragona's Rovira Y Virgili University, referring to the rash of dis-coveries. Mr. Carbonell worked

An enterprising tour operator in the area is offering a package weekend including an hour in Roman baths, all the Rioja wine you can drink and a three-hour search for bones and fossils.

Enrique de Alvaro, an archeaologist in the Culture Ministry, said Spanish scientists long suffered for lack of topflight, post-graduate education and money to support their research and were 20 years behind

the United States and France. Only 10 years ago, Spanish

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paleontologists were embarrassed when a bone fragment hailed as a piece of prehistoric human skull turned out to be from an ancient.

But thanks to growing sophistication and economic well-being, Spain has been able to increase funding for scientific research about 15 per centa yearand has sent a generation of students abroad

for post-graduate study. Recent discoveries are the product of such investments, Mr. De Alvaro said.

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"The emphasis now is on ex-

them well," he said.

International cooperation has played an important role in this development, since scientists from around Europe and the United States collaborate with Spa-

niards on various projects. It is often a fruitful exchange. Foreign researchers get the chance to study interesting sites, while Spanish investigators can share their colleagues' expertise

and — sometimes more impor-tant — the funding they bring. "It seems to be a happy mar-

SPECIAL

INTRODUCTORY

PRICES '

cavating fewer sites but doing riage," said William Farrand, a tugal, should have some interestgeologist at the University of Michigan and director of the University's Exhibit Museum.

"The central part of Spain has not been given a lot of attention," said Mr. Farrand, who is familiar with the Burgos site. "There's good reason to think that the Iberian Peninsula, including Poring prehistoric sites."

Investigators cite several reasons for Spain's wealth of remains. The climate has been temperate in the Iberian Peninsula for millions of years; the region was hospitable to life when ice covered much of the rest of

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WISH THE PEOPLE OF INDONESIA A HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY AFFIRMING JORDANIAN FRIENDSHIP AND HOPES OF CONTINUED PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY



GATT says public pays heavily for protectionism

tactics, the main world trade organisation has turned to the public to pressure governments to wrap up a long overdue trade liberalising pact.

In a report released Monday. the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) said government policies keep prices on products like food, clothing and cars artificially high and increase taxes.

"It is high time that govern-ments made clear to consumers just how much they pay for decisions to protect domestic industries from import competition," said GATT Director-General Peter Sutherland.

"The effects of protection almost always fall most heavily on the poorest sections of society," he said. "It is they who ...have to spend the highest proportion of their household budget on necessities like clothing, footwear and basic food products. It is exactly in these areas that protection is most common and intense."

GATT's Uruguay Round of trade talks are aimed at cutting import duties by one third, reducing protection for agriculture and textiles, and easing restrictions on global trade in services like bank-

ing and insurance. The Uruguay Round package would expand the world economy

Saudi firm

to invest

\$750m in

new ships

ABU DHABI (AFP) - A Saudi

shipping company, one of the biggest in the world, is planning

to invest \$750 million to buy 10

new vessels to face an increase in

operations, the company said

The National Shipping Com-

pany of Saudi Arabia (NSCSA) is

studying bids from South Korea,

Sweden, Norway, Scotland and

other countries to build five oil

tankers and five container vessels

"The purchase of the new ves-

sels is intended to face an in-

crease in Gernand for our services

and to enter the field of trans-

porting crude oil," director of the

NSCSA office in Dubai Ahmad

Nassar, told AFP by telephone.

Officials at the NSCSA head-

quarters in Riyadh said the oil

tankers would range between 250,000 tonnes and 280,000 ton-

nes each and a decision on the

bids would be taken before the

The company, in which the

Saudi government has a 29 per

cent shareholding, was in contact

with major oil firms like Aramco,

British Petroleum, Shell and Ex-

NSCSA, which serves more

than 45 ports around the world, is

the fifth largest company in the

world in petrochemical shipping.

Peanuts

xon to lease the oil tankers.

end of this year.

for the transport of cargo.

Monday.

annually, but would mean sacrificing the interests of protected domestic industries, which usually have powerful political lobbies.

More than 100 governments taking part in the talks originally pledged to sign the agreement by the end of 1990. Despite numerous declarations of support, they have missed a string of deadlines. The next target is Dec. 15.

Until now, GATT has sought to convince governments and businesses of the benefits of the trade liberalising deal. In the new report, it tries to cut through the jargon and explain those benefits directly to consumers.

Examples listed by GATT in the report, which is based on the organisation's own research and independent studies, include:

- Textiles and clothing. Import quotas and tariffs cost a four-person household in the United States up to \$420 per year, in Canada \$220 per year and in the United Kingdom about \$130 per

- Electronics. Video recorders, televisions, compact disc players are often subject to high import harriers. These restrictions cost consumers in the European Community an estimated \$1.3 billion per year.

— Cars. American and Euro-

pean restrictions against Japanese

cars and increase the price. One study showed Japanese cars in Britain were 70 per cent more

expensive than in Japan. - Rice. Japan has a ban on imports to protect domestic farmers. Rice costing \$45 to \$50 per 100 lbs. In the United States sells for \$175 to \$250 in Japan.

 Sugar. Subsidies to protect the U.S. sugar industry has nearly doubled prices for American con-

The report cites estimates that government protection of agriculture cost individual consumers in the United States \$360 per year, in Japan \$600, in Switzerland \$840 and in Finland \$910.

GATT said that money spent — on tariffs, quotas, subsidies and other measures - to protect jobs in inefficient industries would be put to better use in retraining affected workers.

The protection cost per job is usually far greater than the wage the worker earns, it said.
It said in the United States the

cost of saving a single job in the garment sector was estimated at between \$36,000 and \$82,000. 'Another study in the United States showed the costs per job

saved at \$240,000 in the orange juice industry, at \$135,000 in the ceramic tiles industry, at \$420,000 in the colour TV sector," it said.

Economic clampdown on way in China — survey

to a reversal of economic policy, the Economist Intelligence Unit which downgraded the country's creditworthiness.

The risk ratings review from the independent research body says the downgrading has been paradoxically caused by China's recent economic success.

"The boom that started in early familiar problems of inflation and supply bottlenecks that will inevitably prod the government into a clampdown on credit, investment and imports," the re-

The EIU rates risk by giving countries a points score based on various economic criteria such as gion. debt ratios and judgements on the country's economic policy and political situation.

Scores can range from zero for

LONDON (R) — China's over- the highest risk — a score achieved heating economy is likely to lead only by the former Yugos-to a reversal of economic policy, lav republics. Ukraine and Iraq. the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) said Monday, in a review score rose to 30 points from 25, putting it in the same category as Malaysia and the Czech Repub-

"China's government is using its crude macroeconomic weapons to curb runaway growth," said Ken Davies, the EIU's senior economist for the 1992 has brought with it the Asia-Pacific region. "But it does not want to revert to central planning, which would depress the economy and frighten foreign'

investors. The report says the possible imposition of strong deflationary measures in China is the major source of uncertainty in the re-

It says the resulting austerity will harm growth in Hong Kong-and Taiwan and temporarily divert investment away from the thelowest risk countries to 100 for Chinese mainland.

7.8% decline in net earnings

MANILA (AFP) - Philippine Airline's (PAL) net income for fiscal year 1993 declined by 7.8 per cent from the previous year, a company statment has said. The statement said the country's flag carrier had a net income of 1.026 billion pesos (\$38 million) for the fiscal year ending March 31, compared to 1.113 billion pesos (\$41.2 million) last

Despite a strong peso against the U.S. dollar and tough interna tional competition, PAL's gross income increased to 24.246 billion pesos (\$904.66 million) from last year's 24.406 billion pesos (\$903.92 million). But expenses also climbed to 23.014 billion pesos (\$852.37 million) from 21.093 billion pesos (\$781.22 million) reducing operat-

Suharto says Indonesia on verge of economic take-off

take-off that could lift it to the level of the newly industrialised world, President Suharto said Monday.

In his annual state of the nation address to parliament, the 72year-old president said that under his guidance Indonesia was on track to quadruple its per capita income, currently about \$650. over the next 25 years.

"We are confident that we shall succeed in entering the take-off stage because we have made the necessary ideological, political, social and security preparations."

OPEC-member Indonesia under President Suharto's iron

on the verge of an economic how developing countries can fos- years in which growth would be at ter impressive growth with prudent fiscal policies and manageable debts.

President Suharto said real gross domestic product (GDP) growth last year reached 6.3 per cent, pushing average growth over the past five years to nearly seven per cent against a five per cent target.

Despite such achievements, the World Bank at the weekend warned that 27 million Indonesians, out of a population of 183 million, were locked in poverty that would be hard to reduce.

President Suharto, who has ruled the sprawling archipelago for a quarter of a century, un-

JAKARTA (R) - Indonesia is grip has long been a model of veiled a vision of the next 25 least seven per cent, raising per capita income to that of middle income nations.

In the next five-year plan. which starts next year, he said growth would rise to more than 6.5 per cent with an average increase of 6.2 per cent. Per capita income should at the end of the five year period surpass

President Suharto said the key to such success was increasing the country's earnings outside oil and gas, which he said had been the dynamo for the past five years'

In 1981, oil and gas accounted for 82 per cent of export revenue,

but by 1992 accounted for only 31 per cent.

"The key to achieve all these objectives is to raise non-oil and gas domestic revenues. One of the principal prerequisites to reach these goals is the availability of investment funds," he said.

President Suharto said he hoped that by fostering domestic and foreign investment Indonesia could boost such exports by at least 16.5 per cent a year, with manufactured exports expected to rise more than 17.5 per cent a

Indonesia has for the past two years been becalmed by tighter credit, itself a reaction to lending sprees in the late 1980s and early 1990s that fuelled unchecked

President Suharto acknowledged Indonesia was not over the hump of attracting investment from home and abroad but said the government was trying to iron out problems in the banking sector and free up regulations for

But President Suharto also warned that such ambitious plans should not be at the expense of the nation's poor.

He called for economic growth that was labour intensive to soak up a pool of unused or underused workers, to keep inflation below last year's five per cent and the setting up of rural programmes to eradicate poverty in villages.

OPEC committee to start tour next month

NICOSIA (R) - OPEC President Jean Ping and the organisation's compliance committee will start a tour of member states early in September, the oil industry newsletter Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Mon-

MEES said they faced a daunting task trying to ensure that an OPEC ministerial meeting in Geneva on Sept. 25 could set convincing limits on production in response to weak prices in world oil markets.

"In the present circumstances. the prospects of success for such a mission in terms of laying the groundwork for agreement in Geneva do not look at all bright,' MEES said.

MEES said the compliance committee of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) had in a meeting on Aug. 10 deplored overproduction by member states and urged an immediate adherence to output

ministers of Libya, Qatar and OPEC Secretary-General Sub-

that the organisation's July output was 924,800 barrels per day CIIOta.

It said the report put July supply to the market at 671,200 b/d over the ceiling.

prices, unprecedented in recent

delayed, the best part of 1994 will change controls. also be lost for the organisation. "They're undermining their credibility and not accepting real-

money.'

ATT to buy cellular phone company McCaw in \$12.6b deal

NEW YORK (R) - American Telephone Telegraph Co. (ATT) said Monday it will buy all of McCaw Cellular Communications Inc, the biggest U.S. cellular phone company, in a \$12.6 billion stock-swap transaction.

ATT said it has signed a definitive merger agreement with McCaw under which the leading U.S. long-distance phone company will exchange one share of common stock for each of McCaw's class-A and Class-B

The tieup will allow ATT to forge a direct link with U.S. phone customers for the first time

Monday that while it was under-

standable for politicians to pin

the blame for the problems of the

currency grid on a nameless

group of money dealers, it was

hard to see what they could do

that speculators have brought the

ERM low but this kind of talk

simply undermines the whole no-

tion of the Maastricht treaty.

said Jeremy Hawkins, senior eco-

nomic adviser at Bank of Amer-

"They are clearly very unhappy

about it.

since the 1984 breakup of its former Bell system monopoly. It also enables McCaw to sell wireless services and products under ATT's brand name and to use the powerful resources of Bell labor-

The new agreement follows a lengthy series of negotiations between the two companies that began last November when ATT announced that it would buy onethird of McCaw for \$3.8 billion. That was to include a one-fifth stake held by British Telecommunications PLC (B.T.), Britain's

Politicians cry foul over ERM,

money where they want to move

trols on the flow of capital would

only work if they were introduced

on a Community-wide basis, and

Britain and Germany would un-

doubtedly block such a move.

Mr. Schmidt said that if coun-

tries attempted to resurrect ex-

change controls unilaterally they

risked shooting themselves in the

led to a collapse in the Spanish

introduction of ca

This turned out to be the case

Analysts said the return of con-

receive about \$2.2 billion worth of shares in ATT for its 17 per cent stake in McCaw.

"Telecommunications is growing and converging with other industries so fast that it was almost impossible in our discussions to define and divide future opportunities between the two companies." ATT Chairman Robert Allen said in a statement. "A merger offers the best, quick-

est way to go after this market." McCaw's class-A stock closed at \$51.25 a share Friday on the NASDAQ over-the-counter marleading phone company. ket. ATT closed at \$62,375 on the B.T. said Monday it would New York Stock Exchange.

central banks' currency rserves, it

seems unlikely they would dig

further into the coffers and use up

"All central banks can do is

cushion movements, they can't

in front of the tide, that much we

The market is generally agreed

that one thing that could be done

to shore up the weaker European

But the authorities seem deter-

mined to hold interest rates at

high levels, believing it to be the

"Perhaps the strongest capital

flows would be encouraged by

quite aggressive cuts in interest

rates, which is what the markets

have been expecting since the

crisis," said Brian Hilliard, inter-

national economist at Societe

cuts by the French and I think if

they were to go for a larger reduction they might well find the

franc actually holds up and even

appreciates for a short while," he

"We've already seen two small

General Strauss Turnbull.

only way to keep their currencies

Not so, say analysts.

currencies would be a cut in

gold reserves, analysts said.

have already seen."

an indow of capital.

from falling.

added.

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ity," said Adrian Schmidt, inter- tors is with a great deal more

national economist at Chase In- direct foreign exchange interven-

vestment Bank. "If you have free tion. Given that the battle with

Pakistan raises discount, interest rates

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan's central bank Sunday announced a two percentage point rise in its discount rate to 17 per cent and ended a concessionary interest scheme for industry to try to curb rising prices.

But some private economists ioubted the move would succeed in cutting inflation, which the Federal Bureau of Statistics put at a year-on-year rate of 9.12 per

cent in June. State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Sovemor Mohammad Yaqub told reporters the discount rate cut vould take effect from Monday. Interest for domestic machinery manufacturers would rise to a market-based rate of 11 per cent from the previous concessionary eight per cent, he added.

The main objective ... is to educe the rate of inflation which is the worst form of taxation, and its burden falls very heavily on the poorer segments of society, Mr. Yaqub, who took over as

reverse a trend," Mitsubishi's Lea said. "It would be like canute SBP governor last month, said. "The government is making a determined effort to reduce the budget deficit and to contain government borrowing from the banking system," he added. "We want to rationalise the (financial)

with Spain last autumn, when the interest rates, which would spur Pakistan plans to cut its budget deficit to 5.5 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) or 85 billion rupees (\$3.1 billion) for 1993/94 (July/June). down from last year's shortfall of seven per cent, or 95 billion rupees (\$3.5

billion). Mr. Yaqub also announced several other measures, including raising the three-day repurchase rate to 17 per cent against sixmonth T-bills and three-year federal investment bonds.

The maximum annual rate of interest, known as the rate of profit in Pakistan under Islamic banking laws, will rise to 22 per cent from 20 per cent.

But some economic analysts doubted the changes would meet their aims.

Philippine Airlines report

ing income to 1.411 billion pesos (\$52.25 million) from last year's 3.313 billion pesos (\$122.70 million), the statement said.

IT IS SAID THAT WHEN

DOGS DRINK FROM THE RIVER NILE, THEY DO IT WHILE RUNNING 50 AS NOT TO BE SEIZED BY CROCODILES ..

but their hands are tied LONDON (R) - European poli-

tical leaders still sore at the failure of the European Community's (EC's) exchange rate markets, people will move their speculators has already savaged mechanism (ERM) are still pointing the tremulous finger of blame at foreign exchange speculators. Financial market analysts said

The committee comprises oil

MEES quoted a confidential report sent by the committee to OPEC's 12 members as saying (b/d) over its 23.58 million b/d

MEF° said the committee report re mmended "the immediate reum of all member countries to their quotas as well as additional efforts to absorb the surplus."

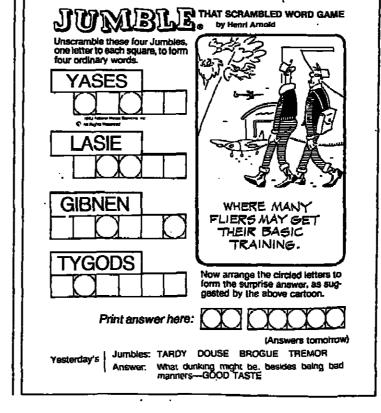
The report said that if immediate measures were not taken "the present downward trend in vears, whether in magnitude or duration, will continue making recovery much more difficult and the necessary measures to be taken much more drastic." "If the necessary measures are

bond market, forcing long-term interest rates sharply higher. French President Francois Mit-So if exchange controls are terrand Monday added his voice potentially dangerous and unliketo a series of sometimes vitriolic to gain Europe-wide agreeofficial comments since the early ment, would taxation on foreign August collapse of the ERM, exchange profits work? angrily denouncing speculators for triggering the crisis. Mr. Mitterrand said the aim The answer is almost certainly no, analysts said. "It is very should be to fight "the plots of difficult to see just how they could tax profits on foreign ex-But analysts said talk of conchange," said Ruth Lea. chief trolling speculative flows made a economist at Mitsubishi Bank. mockery of the whole idea of a "It would have to be imposed on single European market given a global scale and all the nations that the authorities had just spent of Europe would have to agree to the past few years abolishing ex-

controls Britain and Germany would not agree." Another way to fight specula-

it as is the case with exchange

THE BETTER HALF By Harris



Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by Diane C. Baldwin



Andy Capp







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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

1.3135/40 U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.7050/60 1.9200/10 1.5210/20 36.40/50 6.0400/00 1626.5/8.0 101.23/33

8.1450/65 7.4250/45 7.0650/85 \$1,4610/20 One ounce of gold \$373.10/373.60

Supersonic yen heads for the one cent barrier

LONDON (R) - The irrepressiday to come within spitting distance of the magical one-yen to one-cent barner.

"Adjectives like ballistic and supersónic don't do the yen justice," said David Brown, chief economist at Tokai Bank, "We could see it break 100 (per dollar) before the week is out."

The Bank of Japan again intervened heavily to buy dollars for yen but the battle was futile given the insatiable demand from corporate Japan and U.S. investment funds for the currency and the conspicuous absence of other central banks.

By 1200 GMT the yen was taking a breather at 101 per dollar after soaring to a 100,80 post-war peak early on. It finished last Friday at 102.45 and this latest dollar plunge brings its gains for year the so far to 24 yen, or 19 per

It also soared to record highs on the mark at 59.05 ven and against sterling at 147.70 yen, versus 59.66 and 149.20 Friday. The main driving force behind

the yen remains Japan's huge trade surplus and the facit acceptance by U.S. and European policy-makers of a rising yen to

"Japanese export penetration is seen as a serious problem by the U.S. and Europe and both are quite prepared to let the problem sort itself out through the price mechanism, and that means a stronger yen," said Mr.

In simple terms, he said, the ble yen continued its surge Mon-trade surplus meant that in 1992 the rest of the world had to buy more than \$100 billion worth of yen to pay for Japanese goods, and it looked certain to be even more this year.

"That advantage is so powerful that anyone who stands in the way of the yen is going to get steamrollered," he said.

However, some analysts wondered if the psychologically crucial 100 level might not be a yen too far. "There's little doubt the yen is looking expensive on all fundamental measures, as any recent vistor to Japan can testify," said economist Stuart Thomson at another Japanese bank, Nikko Europe.

He thought the new Japanese government had one clear course of action - to cut interest rates. "This would make the yen less attractive while boosting domestic demand and, in turn, imports," said Mr. Thomson.

as this week, he said, to coincide with a Japanese cabinet meeting on the economy on Thursday. The dollar/mark rate spent

An easing could come as early

another morning session being ignored and drifted lower to .7040 marks from 1.7135 on Friday.

The mark continued to make gains in the European Monetary System as investors showed their impatience with the slow pace of monetary easing from those members with weak currencies and recession-hit economies,

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Amman-Jordan

Earthquakes likely to take their toll on Jordanian insurers and insurance companies

By Samir Shafiq Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Tremors which hit Jordan earlier this month have not shaken people enough to make them take out insurance policies against earthquakes. The people did not have to, anyway, since earthquake risk is normally covered without charge and is considered as a bonus item within

fire insurançe package. But things may be different from now on. Reinsurance companies are pressing their clients to establish a separate coverage for this risk at, of course, a fee.

Officials of insurance companies in Jordan say their colleagues in the reinsurance business now insist on including coverage of natural disasters by either increasing charges or taking out separate plans.

The issue, however, has not been resolved and is still being negotiated" an insurance official told the Jordan Times this week. This official said that reinsurers

were under pressure to demand higher rates and better deals because of growing natural disasters around the world and not only because of earthquakes in our

He added that financial losses resulting from various hurricanes, givennames like Hugo and Andrew, and from other flood and earthquake disasters in the U.S. and Japan, have weighed heavily on

Amman

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reinsurers to push for this type of insurance.

Another insurance official said the recent tremors in Jordan had not created a demand for "natural disasters" insurance and, based on this, the pressure by reinsurers to specify risks and raise charges would make it more difficult for local insurance companies to attract business.

Jamal Madbak, assistant general manager of the Middle East Insurance Company, told the Jordan Times this week that only big enterprises such as hotels, banks and major industries are interested in covering natural disaster risks, but again this coverage was a free annexation to a fire insurance policy.

"Ordinary citizens have little awarness of these risks and have not shown a change in their attitude as a result of the recent tremors," he explained.

Mr. Madbak emphasised that earthquakes, snowstorms and floods which have repeatedly hit our region since 1991, have alerted local and international insurers and prompted them to reexamine the risks of natural disasters in the Middle East by attempting to amend their poli-

'Reinsurers, he said," base risks of earthquakes in the Mideast on the 1929 strong Jericho earthquake which they believe will somehow reoccur ev-

ery 80 years."
"As such, and as we approach

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century, reinsurers will be raising rates for insurance against earthquakes," he pointed out.

Mr. Madbak said that based on the regional considerations and the eagerness of international reinsurance companies to compensate their losses from increasing natural disasters around the world, a leading world reinsurance firm is asking for 700 fils per JD1,000 for earthquake insurance and 300 fils per JD1,000 for flood insurance in the Mideast.

Noting that the rates were just an example of how high a charge reinsurance companies were seeking, Mr. Madbak emphasised that the problem was not really in how much the rates would be but in the fact that earthquakes and floods were risks that had to be separately covered and charged.

"Rates requested by reinsurers can be sharply reduced especially when taking into consideration the small Jordanian market and varied international prices weighed down by competition is JD1 per capita, is paid by big among tens of reinsurance businesses and large industries.

the beginning of the twenty-first firms... the most prominent of which are German, Swiss and American companies."

Mr. Madbak said the introduction of the new rates, once agreed with reinsurers, would not be sobig since local insurance companies know how to deal with the local market.

He pointed out that local insurance companies collect an average of 20 per cent commission per every insurance package forewarded to the international market for reinsurance.

According to Mr. Madbak, a study by his company estimates total insurance premiums in Jordan to be JD55-JD60 million, which translates into JD10 per capita. In Switzerland, for example, insurance per capita consti-tutes about 30 per cent of a person's income.

The study shows that total fire insurance premiums (often including natural disasters) totals JD4 million in Jordan. However, 85 per cent of that amount, which is JD1 per capita, is paid by big

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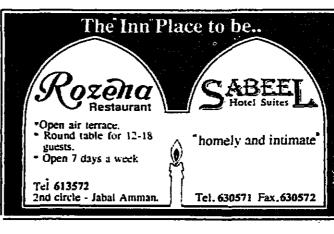
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Khmer Rouge step up attacks; abduct 8 Vietnamese children

Khmer Rouge stepped up their attacks in central Cambodia, killing two ethnic Vietnamese and abducting eight children before attacking a train and killing two passengers over the weekend, U.N. and government officials said Monday.

. The two ethnic Vietnamese were killed and the eight children abducted in a raid on the village of Chnouk Trou in the central province of Kompong Chhnang, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

Mr. Falt did not accuse the Khmer Rouge directly but said the attack bore "a lot of similarities" to recent Khmer Rouge attacks against Vietnamese set-tlers in Cambodia.

But another U.N. official, who declined to be indentified, said peacekeepers in the Kompong Chhnang indicated that the radical faction's guerrillas were re-

A group of 30 guerrillas raided the village around 8:00 p.m. Friday, Mr. Falt said.

They came abroad several boats mounted with machine guns, they robbed the villagers, mostly ethnic Vietnamese, and shot one of them in the chest point blank," Mr. Falt said.

The injured man, who was treating a sick person when he was shot, later died, he said. Later in the evening the guerrillas abducted a group of 11 people including the eight children,

and took them away by boat. One person, who was believed to be a Cambodian, was later released but another, an ethnic Vietnamese woman, was killed,

MOSCOW (AFP) - Georgian

and Abkhazian forces have sus-

pended their withdrawal from

one of two conflict zones amid

mutual accusations of violating a

force disengagement accord, offi-

cials from both sides said Mon-

Abkhazian leader Vladislav

Ardzinba, alleging that Georgian

troops had not pulled back as

planned, ordered a halt to the

denarture from Abkhaz territory

of volunteers from other parts of

a spokesman for the Abkhaz par-

liament told AFP by telephone.

spokesman told an AFP reporter

in Tbilisi that the pullback of

Georgian troops was halted Mon-

day in response to Mr. Ardzin-

'The first Georgian units and

S. Africa setbacks are not

insurmountable — De Klerk

military hardware were already

prepared to leave Abkhazia, but

PRETORIA (R) — President F.W. De Klerk said Monday that

setbacks in South Africa's transi-

tion to democracy were not insur-

mountable and the first all-race

election would take place as plan-

time to time. I think we are so

anxious to succeed that South

Africans sometimes fail to recog-

nise the progress that has been made," Mr. De Klerk said in

"We should not, at every set-

back we experience, interpret it

as if this is fatal," he said after

receiving the credentials of Sang

Duk Choi, the first South Korean

Mr. De Klerk said South Afri-

.ca's transition to multi-party

democracy was a complex process

and it was inevitable there would

"I am convinced, not just

hopeful but convinced that the

process will be seen through...

that we will get an interim con-

stitution which can be im-

plemented from the 27th of April

next year, through an election,"

ambassador to South Africa.

We have our setbacks from

ned next April.

Pretoria.

be problems.

ba's suspension order.

A Georgian Defence Ministry

"Yesterday morning (Sunday) UNTAC naval observers found the body of a woman who was part of that group of 11. She had been shot in the back of the head," he said.

The remaining eight children were reportedly being held for ransom, he said.

Also in Kompong Chhnang province, Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked a train as it travelled from the capital to the country's second city of Battambang.

The Khmer Rouge detonated mines as the train approached, derailing the engine and four carriages, and opened fire, seriously wounding six people two of whom later died, director of the railway service Pich Kimsreang said.

The radical faction's guerrillas also blew up two bridges in the province as well as one in Battambang last week; he said.

Sunday's train attack was the second fatal one this month, following 16 attacks on trains, track and bridges last month. Ten people were killed and some 30 wounded in a recent attack on the Sihanoukville to Phnom Penh train in southern Cambodia.

The chief of the U.N. peacekeeping mission here Yasushi Akashi recently vrote a strongly worded letter to hmer Rouge nominal leader 'hieu Samphan accusing the radic. faction's leadership of encouraging the massacres of ethnic Viet-

Thailand's intelligence chie' has accused the Khmer Rouge o trying to drag Bangkok into in fight with Phnom Penh by steping up armed clashes on the

Abkhazia pullback partially suspended

spokesman said.

following the decree of Mr.

Ardzinba, Georgia suspended the

withdrawal of its troops from the

western front," the ministry.

The western front refers to

battle lines along the Gumista River north of the Abkhazian

capital, Sukhumi. There were no

reports of delays in the pullbacks

of forces from a second front

further south at Ochamchi, a.

The Abkhaz parliament

Confederation of Caucasus

Mountain Peoples to delay their

departure from Abkhazia due to

Georgia's failure to comply with

Under the terms of a timetable.

these volunteers, who account for

about one-third of the armed

units who have fought alongside

Abkhazian separatist forces,

were to have left Abkhazian terri-

dom Party, the Kwazulu home-

land and a white conservative

party walked out of the multi-

party democracy forum last

month after 19 of the 26 delega-

tions to the talks set next April 27

Inkatha chairman Frank Mdla-

lose told state television after a

day-long meeting of the policy-

making central committee over

the weekend, that Inkatha would

not end its boycott until a court

dispute over negotiation proce-

Court for a ruling against the

concept of "sufficient consensus"

as the yardstick for approval of

Chief government negotiator

Roelf Meyer told a congress of Mr. De Klerk's ruling National

Party Thursday that delegates had made significant further con-

cessions to Inkatha in a bid to

Inkatha was not back at the talks

it was still talking to the govern-ment. More bilateral talks be-

tween the two sides taking place

Mr. De Klerk said that while

woo them back to the talks.

:ed

dures had been resolved.

Inkatha leader Chief

gosuthu Buthelezi has ins.

lawyers to apply to the Su

forum decisions.

as the election date.

the disengagement timetable.

said Monday.

"I suspect the Khmer Rouge want to drag Thailand into the conflict," General Charan Kullavanijaya, secretary general of the National Security Council (NSC), said in an interview, adding that he hoped to be able to work out the problem with Mr. Khieu Sam-

without them.

military operations.

a prime minister and two deputy

premiers, committee President

Ing Kieth said.
"Prince Sihanouk is the only

one capable" of filling the role of head of state, Mr Ing Kieth said.

Initially he wili e elected by a

two-thirds ma, rity of the

National Assemby, which will

come into being as soon as the body elected in U.N.-run polls in

May ratifies the constitution and

turns itself into a fully sovereign

Renewal of his term will be by

Prince Norodom Ranariddh,

currently a co-prime minister in

the interim coalition government,

is likely to become the sole prime

minister when the constitution is

ratified next month, Cambodian

would move one notch down to

first deputy premier and have

control over the daily functions of

the armed forces, the sources

In exchange, Mr. Hun Sen

political sources told AFP.

Pope ends

DENVER, Colorado (R)

Pope John Paul II concluded his

third trip to the United States

Sunday, crusading against abor-

tion and imploring American

Catholics to take up the defence

of life and "preach it from the

"The culture of life means re-

ay it means respect : i

spect for nature and protection of

God's work of creation. In a

human life from the first moment

of conception until its natural

end." he said in a speech before

His closing remarks reflected

the theme of the Pope's four-day

visit to participate in World

The departure ceremonies Sun-

day night were attended by Vice

President Al Gore, who praised

the Pope for his support of the

environment and said the United

States joined the Pope in oppos-

ing those who "heap contempt

At every stop the Pope took

the opportunity to express his

disapproval of abortion, either

Sunday was among the busiest

days of a week-long trip that also

took him to Jamaica and Mexico.

He delivered a sermon to at least 350,000 people at an open-

air mass in a park 15 miles (24

km) southeast of Denver at the

The mass was not without problems. Some 7,000 at the park

needed medical treatment for de-

Earlier, on Saturday, a 61-

year-old man suffered a heart

attack during a prayer vigil. He

was pronounced dead at the hos-

The Pope, who Saturday con-

demned what he called an anti-

life mentality in the United

States, returned Sunday to t he issue dividing U.S. Catholics and

impose itself on society.

NAKHON RATCHASIMA.

little hope of pulling out more

As cranes, caterpillars and

the Royal Plaza Hotel crumbled

heard as they had before from the

giant pile of concrete, twisted

"We haven't heard anything

since 1:00 a.m. today," a relief

steel and shattered glass.

survivors.

hydration and other ailments.

close of the youth pageant.

Youth Day festivities.

upon his creation."

implicitly or explicitly.

U.S. trip

rooftops."

leaving.

general election, Mr. Ing Kieth

government, he said.

It was the first time since the 1991 Paris peace accords were signed that a ranking Thai official had unequivocally blamed the Khmer Rouge, observers here

By implicating Thailand in the attacks, the Khmer Rouge hoped Bangkok would throw its weight into convincing Phnom Penh to give it the political role it wants. an NSC source who declined to be identified told AFP.

In the Nation, Gen. Charan pointed to the recent Khmer Rouge capture of a U.N. post in Cambodia only several hundred metres from the Thai border. The United Nations later accused the Thai army of having helped the Khmer Rouge in the incident, sparking in angry denial from

Bangkok.
"Why don't the Khmer Rouge limit their military operations to areas inside Cambodia? Why do they have to carry them out on the border?,", the general said. Last month the Khmer Rouge

embarrassed Thailand by taking Preah Vihear, a famous Cambodian temple complex, which is on the border. Phnom Penh then accused Thailand of letting the Khmer Rouge use their territory to stage the attack, drawing another sharp denial from Bang-

Gen. Charan said they by step-

But the spokesman said the

suspension order was given in

response to an admission by

Georgian authorities Sunday that

their pullout was being delayed

by Georgian nationalist groups in

the region opposed to the with-

drawal who were interfering

only to the non-Abkhaz "good-will volunteers" and was "not

aimed at bringing on the collapse

conflict in Abkhazia," the Par-

liamentary Press Service said,

A Russian general who is a

member of the tripartite commis-

sion supervising the disengage-

ment said military hardware had

been withdrawn from frontline

positions but criticised both sides

for failing to implement the with-

drawal plan on schedule, ITAR-

according to ITAR-TASS.

The Ardzinba decree applied

with logistics.

spokesman said Mr. Ardzinba of the process of resolving the



Jordan family, friends honour slain patriarch

TEACHEY, N.C. (AP) — Michael Jordan's much-publicised life turned very private Sunday as the NBA star and his family said their good-byes to his slain father.

Family and friends who gathered for a private service at the rockfish African Methodist Episcopal Church were urged to remember the way James Raymond Jordan lived and not the way he died. Police said Mr. Jordan, 56, was shot to death by robbers when he pulled his car off a highway last month to rest.

Security at the 100-year-old church was tight.

The media was kept across the street. But reporters were given a programme of the service that included a message from James Jordan's wife, Deloris, and her five children: Michael, James Ronald, Deloris, Larry and Roslyn.

"Everyone who has been touched by the warmth and strength of this special man can understand the depth of our family's sense of loss," it said.

"Dad is no longer with us. But the lessons which he taught us will remain with us forever and they will give us the strength to move forward with a renewed sense of purpose in our lives." Most of the family arrived in two limousines, with Michael following in a separate car. Also attending the service were Dean Smith, Michael's

B.J. Armstrong, a Chicago Bulls teammate. About 100 people lined the street outside and an estimated 200 were inside. The photograph shows Deloris Jordan (centre) is helped out of the church behind the carket of her husband (AFP photo).

coach at the University of North Carolina, and

Italy raises stakes in Bosnia airlift

in an international scramble to airlift wounded people from Sarajevo by offering to treat more than 450 - the entire re-

The Italian offer came soon after a senior U.N. official had appealed for more beds abroad, describing the highly publicised weekend airlift of just 39 sick and wounded people to Sweden and Britain as the tip of the iceberg.

Tony Land, who heads the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Bosnian capital, also rejected charges that some of the patients evacuated to Britain were soldiers who had bribed their way on

only the highly visible tip of an enormous iceberg of suffering in Sarajevo," Mr. Land told a news briefing, appealing for more help.

In addition to the 39 people airlifted out Sunday, the UNHCR has a list with 400 names of further cases. They are under consideration for treatment abroad by the U.N. medical committee which meets once a

Croat military leaders said the negotiations depended on bertling in central Bosnia let supplies through to a hospital in a

by a fresh walk-out threat.

stranded village. In another row, President Alija Izetbegovic's Muslim-led government rejected a claim by Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic that the siege of Sarajevo was over now that his forces had len

two strategic hills and opened

roads for aid convoys. Mr. Izetbegovic has said he will insist that ending the 16-month Serb siege of Sarajevo be the first priority when talks on the map of ethnic partition resume after a

Chief United Nations Protec-tion Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman Barry Frewer appeared to support Mr. Karadzic's comments by saying in Sarajevo the Bosnian Serb encirclement had been relaxed to a degree it was no longer appropri-

ate to call it a siege. "I would not characterise it as a siege," the Canadian naval commander said. In a carefully worded formulation that may be linked to the delicate state of the Geneva peace talks, Major Frewer said he saw gradual improvements that would not fit the

But the UNHCR's Land. speaking at the same briefing described the city as besieged saying aid was still only reaching Sarajevo under military escort.

In Geneva, Bosnia's warring While aid arrives under escort, together to talk peace for the first a few people are reaching the West for medical treatment. time in almost two weeks, but hopes they would soon agree on a Planes left Sunday for Sweden new Bosnian map were rempered and Britain. Another flight to Ireland is planned.

The suggestion many of those evacuated Sunday were members whether Muslim forces they are of the Bosnian army and not, as public opinion had demanded. children, prompted outrage in the British press.

"They've sent us soldiers." said the Daily Mail.

But Mr. Land said a soldier who had laid down his gun was entitled to medical treatment and under international law it was illegal to refuse to treat such patients.

He said there was no one on the British flight who was a serving soldier or who could be classified as a belligerent.

"Under both the Geneva Conventions and our own (UNHCR) refugee conventions, irrespective of how a person is injured or what he has done, once a person has laid down his weapon he ceases to be a soldier," he said.

Mr. Land appealed to the West for more offers to treat the hundreds more sick and wounded still in Sarajevo, where despite a period of relative calm recently. people are being killed and

vounded almost every day. The airlift ran into trouble from the outset, when U.N. officials accused Western governments of staging a publicity stunt after they had ignored appeals for help for many months.

U.N. sources said Finland may SARAJEVO (R) — Italy dramaalso have offered a substantial tically raised the stakes Monday number of hospital places, but

leaders were due to sit down

gave no details.

maining United Nations list of

deserving cases.

"The medical evacuation is

UNHCR official Peter Kessler latere told Reuters the Italian government had offered to take all of the sick and wounded on the U.N. list of people seeking evacuation from the city.

"We have an offer from the Italian government of 454 places, a list of beds and hospitals that are available right down to the exact kind of treatment that they can provide," he said.

month to evaluate requests for evacuation from the besieged

concept of siege warfare.

Sir Robin said several more

New York.
"We want to make as much progress as we can (before the meeting) but I can't tell you how much that will be," Sir Robin

"We have a lot of work to do and we've been getting on with it." he added. "I don't want to

The British side held consulta-

the Qian-Hurd talks.

A second scheduled session Tuesday morning will complete the current ninth round of talks. Dates for the 10th round are likely to be disclosed Tuesday afternoon.

China, U.K. discuss Hong Kong polls

PEKING (R) — China and Bri- 1994 and 1995. tain returned to the bargaining table Monday for a ninth round of talks on controversial political reforms proposed for Hong Kong ahead of the colony's 1997 handover to Chinese sovereignty.
Britain's ambassador in Pek-

ing, Sir Robin McLaren, said his morning of talks with Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Jiang Enzhu were conducted in a perfectly normal atmosphere, but declined to say if any progress was made. Sir Robin declined to give de-

America in general. Speaking in a strong voice and raising it every time he uttered the word "life," the Pope details other than to say the sides nounced "a culture of death" were in the "nitty-gritty" of diswhich he said was seeking to cussions over arrangements for local Hong Kong elections in

began using heavy equipment to injured people taken to hospitals

clear the mound of rubble with many were in a serious condition.

rounds were needed to prepare for a late September meeting between Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd at the U.N. General Assembly in

talk in terms of progress or no progress."

tions in London and Hong Kong during a three-week break from the talks and spent some time Monday outlining Britain's current positions, he said.

Mr. Jiang, speaking to reporters before the meeting at Peking's Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, said his team hoped to make new progress in advance of

Angola reports new rebel assault on Cuito

The Zulu-based Inkatha Free- in the state capital on Monday.

LUANDA (R) — UNITA rebels launched a new assault on the besieged Angolan city of Cuito Monday and hundreds of bodies were lying in the streets, the Angolan News Agency (Angop)

reported. "The situation continues to be extremely delicate." wrote Angop's correspondent in the central city. "(The battles) are

reaching alarming proportions."
The journalist said hundreds of people were wounded or killed and bodies were littering the streets from artillery bombardments on buildings where civilians had sought refuge.

Main targets of shelling were the central hospital, government buildings and the national bank

Rebels had blocked some roads into Cuito and were preventing civilians from leaving in search of food, the agency said.

Military sources said UNITA had sent reinforcements in a "left flank attack." it said.

The sources gave no civilian casualty figures but said government forces killed 10 UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) soldiers Sunday.

Taiwan ruling party pledges reform

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party, facing the most serious challenge to its power in four decades, opened a key party congress Monday pledging internal democratic reform.

Taiwan President Lee Teng-

Hui, the party chairman, told 2,100 delegates to the Nationalists' 14th congress that the party was threatened by internal factional struggles and growing political opposition.

"In recent years, pluralism in society has led to differences in political ideology among our comrades, posing a severe challenge to us in elections," he said in an opening speech at a plush

Taipei convention centre.

"Implementing internal reform is more difficult than tackling external challenges, but our goal has been set and we must overcome all obstacles," Mr. Lee said.

Several rebel delegates waved banners and shouted demands for action to reduce the chairman's power, such as barring delegates* appointed by Mr. Lee from voting in party elections.

"The party faces a severe crisis because of its poor leadership," said delegate Fu Kuen-Chen, a member of a rebel faction that accuses party leaders of failing to halt corruption and dragging their feet on reform. About 20 supporters of a con-

nouncing Mr. Lee as a "dictator," clashed briefly with clubwielding police outside the convention centre. No serious injuries were reported. The seven-day congress is ex-

servative Nationalist faction, de-

official said. pected to introduce more demo-There were widespread fears cratic procedures to choose party that time was running out for leaders, electing the chairman b survivors because of injury and secret ballot instead of acclamalack of oxygen, food and water.

The death toll looked likely to Thailand (AFP) — As light rain rise further as rescue officials said drizzled Monday on the wreckage an unspecified number of people were still believed to be trapped of a collapsed hotel in this northeastern Thai city, rescue workers and among the more than 220

Cranes moved in to clear rubble in collapsed Thai hotel

Rescue workers, fearing a further collapse, had so far used heavy machinery only in outlying trucks moved in, three days after areas of the wreckage where they were certain nobody was left

without warning, killing at least 86, no cries for help could be But, Monday morning as only two corpses, one of a man and the other of a woman, were pulled out of the hotel ruins cranes began clawing through the rubble, loading debris on trucks.

Among the last survivors to date to be rescued was a 29-yearold mother of two whose legs were amputated to free her from the rubble in a dramatic on site operation late Sunday night. "I'm still strong," Maneewan Kittisaksophon told Thai Television reporters from her hospital

She said that throughout the ordeal she had prayed to the soul of her dead father to ask that her life be spared as she had a son of 10 and an eight-year-old daughter to take care of.

The woman, who worked for the hotel as a maid, had been trapped for almost 60 hours under tonnes of debris.

Officials at the Maharaj Hospital of Nakhon Ratchasima, 260 kilometres northeast of Bangkok, where she was rushed after the operation said she looked likely

to survive. Mrs Maneewan's legs were pinned under a slab of concrete. Doctors, who gave her painkillers, had it first been reluctant

to perform the double amputation for fear that she might bleed to death.

The amputation took three doctors, who crawled under the concrete to operate, some 10 minutes. They were assisted from the outside by a team of some 20.

Meanwhile, police officials said that hotel's general manager and three others, who had been detained Sunday for interrogation after they were charged with cri-minal negligence, had been freed

Speculation about the cause of the disaster has been increasingly focusing on newly-installed water tanks on the roof of the illegally extended hotel.

According to news reports, all three of the 50,000 liter tanks were full at the time of the

Clinton learns art of vacation from **Gerald Ford**

VAIL, Colorado (R) — On his

first real break from the rigours of the White House, Bill Clinton is learning the fine art of presidential relaxation from an old hand at it, former President Gerald Ford. During a weekend in the Rocky Mountains, Ford has treated Mr. Clinton to golf with legendary player Jack Nicklaus, an outdoor performance of the Bolshoi Ballet and a dinnerdance at which Mr. Clinton played saxophone with a dixieland jazz band. The president, pooped from six months of non-stop work, was having such a good time that he decided to stay Sunday night and delay his departure for the next stop on his holiday, Fayetteville, Arkansas, until Monday. Aides said that given a choice between spending the day travelling or resting, Mr. Clinton chose the latter and assured his Arkansas friends he would be along soon. He and Mr. Ford, a Republican president from 1974 to 1977, were back playing golf Sunday afternoon. Mr. Clinton, wife Hillary and daughter Chelsea, 13, stayed at a private residence near the holiday home of Mr. Ford and his wife Betty. and they seem to have gotten along famously. After the Bolshoi performance on a cool Saturday night, the entourage attended a dinner reception in a large tent near the Ford Amphitheatre. And as soon as the jazz band began playing New Orleans tunes, the 80-year-old Ford had Mrs. Clinton on her feet and out on the dance floor. '... Clinton nearly brought the house down when, introduced as a "guest artist" by the band, he stepped on stage and played the saxophone for a couple of songs.

Tivoli celebrates 150th birthday

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Tivoli

Gardens, which celebrated its 150th birthday this weekend, may have some wrinkles but they are not caused by economic troubles. Over the weekend, Copenhagen celebrated the famed park's birthday with fireworks and performances by Denmark's own piano comedian Victor Borge and singers Art Garfunkel, Elame Paige and Barbara Hendrix. "I've put on my nicest dress today because I am attending a birthday party," said Hanna Rasmussen, 92, The lady, dressed in a green skirt and jacket, was accompalaw. Tivoli has often been contrasted with Eurodisney, which has been running at a loss since opening in April 1992 outside Paris. Eurodisney has had trouble attracting French visitors and is suffering from the recession gripping many European countries. But Tivoli made a 29.3-millionkroner (\$4.6 million) profit last vear. Tivoli spokesman Orson Nielsen said he could not recall the park having had a deficit since its creation in 1843. "Tivoli is good business," Mr. Nielsen said. Danes are proud of their downtown amusement park which they say has been imitated but never matched. Walt Disney visited the park in the 1950s and brought back ideas for his theme parks in the United

Run on alarm briefcases seen in Seoul

States, according to Mr. Nielsen.

SEOUL (R) - South Korean shopkeepers report a run on briefcases fitted with alarms following a presidential edict de-signed to stop financial transactions involving ill-gotten cash, the Yonhap News Agency said Monday. The domestic news agency quoted shopkeepers as saying their shelves had been stripped bare of such cases, generally used to transport valuables. Anecdotal evidence circulating in the coffee shops of the South Korean capital suggests there has also been a run on home-wall-safes, but safemakers are not commenting. President Kim Young-Sam announced a ban on financial transactions in false names Thursday night to the horror of those with assets stashed away from the prying eyes of the taxmen and anti-graft watchdogs under ficticious names in the bank and brokerage

Indonesia sets life-expectancy goal of 70

JAKARTA (AFP) — President Suharto vowed Monday to step up health programmes in the aim of extending Indonesian life expectancy to around 70 years in the next century. "By the end of the 25-year development (plan). we will try to see to it that life expectancy will be around 70 years." Mr. Suharto said in an annual address on the eve of . Indonesia's National Day. Indonesia embarks on its second 25-year long-term development plan next April. Since 1970, life expectancy has risen from 43 to 65 years, one of the highest among developing countries.

of attracting the Mantina Navratilova rallied from a 1-3 section—a and abroad deficit on her favourite court to defeat top-seeded ment was to be Arantza Sanchez Vicario 7-5, 7-6 (6-4) for her was to be Arantza Sanchez Vicario 7-5, 7-6 (6-4) for her ment was to be Arantxa Sanchez Vicario 7-5, 7-6 (0-4) for the ms in the base 165th career singles title Sunday in the Virginia ee up regulate. Slims of Los Angles.

Navratilova, 36, the second seed and defending has reached the final 11 times and won

champion, has reached the final 11 times are well such ambition eight titles on the fast hardcourt of the Manhattan be at the country Club. She improved to 32-4 this year with tournament victory. be at the country Club. She impressed by the fourth tournament victory. The winner's check for \$75.00 The winner's check for \$75,000 pushed Navratilova's career earnings to more than \$19 million.

bour intensive "Like the man yelled at me at the ceremony, if unused or the 'hey, that's over \$19 million.' I said, 'yeah, I wish I been or the tradit "to the said." To the man I've been playing if united or the hey, that's over \$19 million.' I said, year, 1 went is united or the had it," she said. "It just means I've been playing five per cell to winning the money but not a very good job at of rural prome. I woning the money." of rural program, keeping the money was moverny in the Sanchez Vicario, whose only victory in 14 Sanchez against Navratilova came in 1990 on clay, opened a 2-0 lead in the Navratilova trailed 0-30 on her serve octobe recovering to climb to 1-2. Sanchez Vicario then a shired set.

lead, appearing ready to force a third set.

That's when Navratilova began her comebackwinning four straight games to tie the set 5-5. Sanchez Vicario served for the served for the stretch, but both times committed errors on Energised by her improved play and crowd of 6,166 cheering her on, Navratilova served a love game to go up 6-5. She was two points from Sanchez Vicario hit a crosscourt forehand on the line to tie the set 6-6.

I (R) close the upon by slide right through. k Sunday annua. Navratilova dominated the tiebreaker, going up itage point he 3-0, then 6-1.

effect from Acfor domestic as Black Sunday for ed rate of 11 pa

zent. he added American soccer giants rate of inflation AONTEVIDEO (AFP) — The i form of taxabat Vorid Cup hopes of Argentina falls very heart nd Brazil were dented in the

segments of secouth American qualifiers Sunb. who took may and, to rub insult into injury, nor last month, oth countries had a player sent vernment is make ff. i effort to traine Diego Simeone received his cit and icontamparching orders as Argentina feir portowing iron-1 in Colombia, and in Brazil's stem. he adder -1 draw against Paraguay in ionalise the fination tevideo, Ricardo Rocha was

iso shown the red card. plans to country With five world titles between 5.5 per cent of hem, a World Cup without the product (GDP) continent's two premier nations is ees (\$31 billionimost unthinkable.

giv June), disa. But if the half-way positions spontall of encemain the same, Brazil, third in 5 billion upes from B, would fail to qualify, did Argentina, second in Group qub also and A, would have to face Australia

er measures into a final berth. three-day mer Marcio Santos put Brazil a goal per cent again thead in the 28th minute, but one per cent again thead in the 28th minute, but one pils and the of Uruguay's five Italian exports on the pitch, Daniel Fonseca, estimated and evelled the score with 22 minutes. estment cond are price. Daniel Fonseca, amum annual cerealining to continue Brazil's nown as the proof sequence of results. Just one win in four matches is

WITH OMAR SHARII & TANNAH HIRSCH

+ Q8 ↑ QJ 1096 ↓ J5

♦ 9 5 3 2 SOUTH

4 Q J 10 4

NORTH

4 A 9 7 6 4 3 4 J 5 2 T A 7 7 K 8 6 0 8 4 2 10 9 3

vulnerable. West

as will not w-20 per cent. ie economic E

e changes would

The bidding:

West North East South

1 4 Pass Pass 2 NT

Pass 3 6 Pass 3 7

Pass 3 NT Pass 4 7

Pass Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of 4

Using only its two most experienced partnerships throughout the final, France defeated the United States to win the 9th World Bridge Team Olympisd in Salomazziore.

Team Olympiad in Salomaggiore, Italy. France also won the first Olympiad in 1960. Star of the French team was its

enjant terrible, Paul Chemla, On his deal from the semifinal match against the Netherlands, he became declarer at four hearts. His jump to two no trump ustensibly showed a balanced hand of 18-19 points, and

Cinema

earn it." Navratilova said. "She wasn't able to close the door. So I said thank you very much, I'll

a disappointing record for a team

which has never failed to qualify

for the World Cup. But they do

play their next four matches at

home, which gives them a strong

South American champions

Argentina, who have appeared in

three out of the last four World

Cup finals, had an even worse

With 70,000 fans roaring on

Colombia in the metropolitano

Stadium, they had the perfect

start when ivan Valenciano, fed

by Carlos Valderrama, scored in

Lavish hairstyles, was again in-

he this time fed Adolfo Valencia,

who made no mistake eight mi-

Argentina at least claimed a

consolation goal, when Medina

Bello took advantage of a slip in

the Colombian defence in the

88th minute, but they still suf-

fered their first loss in three

fer to hearts. Chemla wisely decided

to play four hearts rather than three

no trump.

West led the ace of spades, and declarer saw immediately that the contract was safe as long as East could be kept off lead until at least two rounds of trumps had been drawn, to prevent an early lead through the ace of clubs. The accret to achieving that says is no force the

to achieving that goal is to force the danger hand, East, to play without any knowledge of the distribution or

what is necessary to defeat the

The first step in this campaign was for South to drop the king of spades under the acc. The spade return was taken by dummy's queen and a high trump was led. Obviously, the contract can be beaten if East shoots up with the king of heats.

shoots up with the king of bearts and shifts to a club, but East could not be sure that declarer did not hold four bearts. In that case, rising with the king would telescope the defenders' two trump tricks into one if West held the bare age. Once West had to sain the first tump trick

had to win the first trump trick, Chemla was home free.

the table and the king of trumps was forced out. On the club return, de-

clarer shot up with the ace, drew the last trump and discarded all of the

Tel.: 677420

table's remaining clubs on monds. Making four-odd.

The diamond return was taken on

ray of hone.

time than Brazil.

the second minute.

nutes after the break.

GOREN BRIDGE

FRANCE WINS WORLD TITLE

Valderrama, known

the to 17 Per et "Game, set, match," chair umpire Jan Ryan concession "Game, set, match," chair umpire Jan Ryan industry. E announced before realizing the match wasn't over. industry to the "That surprised me and the crowd started "I don't think e move ... screaming, our good umpire." screaming," Sanchez Varcario said. "I don't think

"I just wasn't going to give it to her; she had to

e move would s. She scowled, turned her back and waved her inflation, the hands as if to dismiss Ryan in the chair. Sanchez reau of States. Vicario felt it was another officiating error in a n-year rate of the match that had other controversial calls.

Sanchez Vicario became irritated as she served nk of Pakistan, for the first set at 5-4, 15-15 and Ryan overfuled a iohammad lage linesman's call in the corner. She eventually lost he discount is the game and the set.

Navratilova claims 165th singles title "If the linesman called the ball good, I don't know why she (Ryan) has to call the ball out," Sanchez Vicario said, "Of course it bothered me. It was a very important point. It made a lot of difference

Navratilova had no sympathy for her opponent. "I think Arantxa felt she got bad calls, but they were the right calls," Navratilova said. "The crowd gets excited and then she (Sanchez Vicario) doesn't hear the call."

Sanchez Vicario staved off two match points on Navratilova errors, then hit a forehand volley winner to cut her deficit to 6-4.

Navratilova ended the suspense of the fourth match point when Sanchez Vicario sent a back-

"I could've won in two sets," Sanchez Vicario said. "I had my chances and I didn't take them."

Chang upsets Edberg

Michael Chang rebounded from being shut out in the second set and beat Stefan Edberg 7.5, 0-6, 6-4 Sunday to capture the Thriftway ATP championship.

"I was thinking that although the first set was so close, in the second set he was just controlling everything and I had to change things around, said Chang, whose win moved him up two spots to

seventh in the ATP tour rankings. Chang broke Edberg only twice in the match, but that was enough as he won his third ATP tour title this year. He also won at Jakarta, Indonesia, and Osaka, Japan.

"He just runs down a lot of balls," Edberg said of Chang, a doggedly persistent baseliner. "He was sort of ahead all the time. He makes you work really hard. I guess he was a couple of points better than I was today."

Edberg, seeking his third ATP championship after winning here in 1987 and 1990, also was runnerup in doubles. He and Henrik Holm lost to Andre Agassi and Petr Korda 7-6, (7-4), 6-4. Chang, 21, reached the title match by beating

Agassi in three sets Saturday, and Sunday's match was almost a replay. Against Agassi, he won a close first set, appeared to collapse in the second, then rallied to win.

Both players had reason to feel fatigued Sunday. Chang experienced nausea and dehydration in his match against Agassi, and Edberg needed three sets to knock off to-ranked Pete Sampras Saturday night. He then played a doubles match that lasted past midnight in the Thriftway-sponsored event.

Thompson, gold medals

Swimming Championships with six gold medals from seven races.

In all, American swimmers won seven races Sunday, finishing the championships with 23 to eight for Australia, which won three on Sunday. New Zealand, Costa Rica and Japan took one gold medal each in the races at Kobe Port Island Sports Cen-

strumental in the second goal, as his third gold of the meet Sunday. breaking his own 2-year-old meet record in the men's 1,500-metre freestyle — 14 minutes, 59.79 seconds — with a race of 14:55.92. He had won the 400 and 800 earlier.

third in 15:16.64.

gold haul of Franzis Van Almsick of Germany at the European Swimming Championships at Sheffield, England, in early Au-

this week," she said.

in 8 minutes, 23.72 seconds, short of her world record of 8:16.22. Evans already had won gold in the 400-metre freestyle and 800metre freestyle relay.

Evans collect

KOBE, Japan (AP) - Jenny

women's 800-metre freestyle.

200-metre freestyle, while taking golds in the 50- and 100-metre relays and the 400-metre medley

Thompson won the women's 50metre freestyle and added gold in the 400-metre medley relay Sunday, finishing the Pan Pacific Janet Evans captured her third gold of the meet by winning the

Lre. Australia's Kieren Perkins won

Australian compatriot Daniel Kowalski followed in 15:06.77, with American Carlton Bruner

The 20-year-old Thompson, from Dover, N.H., equalled the

She missed victory only in the freestyle, the 100-metre butterfly, the 400- and 800-metre freestyle

"I'm so happy to win a lot of gold medals as I swam pretty well

Evans gradually widened her lead throughout the 800 and won

World Athletics Championships

Linford Christie proves a point; Drechsler captures long jump

Noureddine Morceli drops boycott threat

STUTTGART (Agencies) — No doubts, no asterisks, no what-ifs this time. Linford Christie is undeniably the world's fastest hu-

The British sprinter backed up his 100-metre victory at the Barcelona Olympics with an emphatic win Sunday night over a star-packed field at the World Championships, clocking 9.87 seconds
— the second fastest time in

Christie, 33, complained he never got the respect he deserved after his Barcelona victory. Scep-tics said the Olympic field was because world recordholder Carl Lewis was missing.

But on a clear and muggy evening at Gottlieb-Daimler Stadium, Christie took on perhaps the finest 100-metre field ever assembled and ran the best race of his life.

"No one can say that not every-one was here." Christic said. "Everybody was here. Nobody was missing. It's nice to beat everybody. I proved I'm the best. This is the happiest night of my

Lewis, the three-time world champion, was there. So was Andre Cason, the current top American sprinter who ran 9.94 in the semifinals.

Frank Fredericks of Namibia and Dennis Mitchell of the United States, who finished 2-3 in Barcelona, were there. The field also included Nigeria's Daniel Effiong, the previous 1993 leader, and world indoor 60-metre indoor champion Bruny Surin of "They tried to devalue his gold

medal from Barcelona," said Britain's team manager, Joan Allison. "This has finally shut them

Running in lane 4, Christie got off to what he said was his best start ever. Mitchell was actually the fastest out of the blocks, but Christie surged to the front in the first 20 metres and led comfortably all the way to the finish. "I wanted to be out of the blocks before Cason," Christie

said. "Before you could say the 'B' in bang, I was out there." Cason, last out of the blocks, recovered to finish second in 9.92. Mitchell took third in 9.99 and Lewis, last with 30 metres left, put on a late surge to finish

"The race was a piece of genius," said British team coach Frank Dick. "He crafted a mas-

Even Christie said he was surprised by his time - just onehundredths of a second off the world record set by Lewis at the 1991 World Championships in

Tokyo.
"I thought it would take 9.91 or 9.90," he said. "I never thought I could run this quick."

The tone was set in the semifinals when Cason blasted his way to victory in 9.94, topping his 9.96 clocking of the previous day and marking the seventh fastest time

Christic won the other semifinal in 9.97, the second best performance of his career - next only to his 9.92 at the 1991 World Championships.

"Andre posted some superb times," Christie said. "I admit it did get me a little nervous. But I'm experienced, I've been there before. I knew it was in me to run those times. I was able to dig a bit deeper and bring that experience

After winning the final, Christie turned to the crowd and waved his fingers in a sharp-shooter salute as if to show that he had



Limford Christie (No. 444 left) wins the men's 100 metres dank final, and la photo on right is

iust gunned down his rivals. Then Jacomini said. "Having clarified he grabbed a Union Jack flag and did a victory lap as the other sprinters sat on the track and watched Christie's celebration on the giant screen

was sweet satisfaction for Christie, who has long felt overshadowed and under-respected by his American rivals. Before the race, he said he was longing to hear "God Save the Queen" instead of the U.S. national

"I won this for Britain," he said, "I won it for Europe." The Americans gave Christic grudging credit.

"He delivered when he was supposed to deliver," said Cason, who had previously taunted Christic with suggestions that he was not a true champion. "He was the better man on the night." "The difference tonight was that Linford was hungrier than anvone else," Lewis said.

Christie has now won the Olympic, world, European and Commonwealth titles, matching the record of former British decathlete Daley Thompson.

"I've gone beyond being the greatest British athlete," Christie said. "Carl Lewis, because of his great record, would be the greatest athlete of all time. But I should be up there somewhere. "I think it's the beginning of an era. I'm on my way out. Guys like

Dennis and Andre are coming up. I'm just glad that now is my Morcell to compete: Algerian distance runner Noureddine Morceli has dropped his boycott threat and agreed to compete at the World Championships, offi-

cials said Monday. Athletic Federation said it received confirmation of Morceli's appearance Monday morning from his manager, Amar

"Morceli is running," said IAAF chief of staff Enrico Jacomini. "His agent is in Stuttgart and Morceli is coming later to-

Morceli, the world recordholder and reigning world cham-pion at 1,500 metres, had vowed not to compete in Stuttgart unless he was paid. He claimed that other select athletes, including Carl Lewis, were receiving pay-

"We convinced him we were not giving money to anybody,'

al was billed as an all-German this misunderstanding, his mana-ger said he has decided to run. He's happy to run." battle between Drechsler and her

The first-round heats in the ,500 are scheduled for Thurs-

Last week, the IAAF had threatened to suspend Morceli for two months and ban him from the 1996 Atlanta Olympics if he boycotted the championships. Drechsier repeats 10 years la-

ter: When Jackie Joyner-Kersee is not around, Heike Drechsler doesn't have a rival. Ten years after winning her first world title in the women's

long jump, Drechsler did it again Sunday, soaring 7.11 metres to easily beat the field at the World Championships. For years, the clashes between Drechsler and Joyner-Kersee have provided highligths at major

meets. Drechsler emerged from the American's shadow at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona to claim the gold medal.

Joyner-Kersee had won world titles in 1987 and 1991, and the gold medal at the 1988 Olympics,

second place. "I wish she could have been here." Drechsler said, "But a title is a title and I had to fight to get it.'

always beating Drechsler into

Joyner-Kersee is only competing in the heptathlon in Stuttgart. Without the American, the fin-

young compatriot Susen Tiedtke. It never happened. Tiedtke's best jump of 6.54 came in her first attempt and she failed to make the gold-medal cut of eight jumps. She ended ninth,

watched by her fiancee, American long jumper Joe Greene. On the other hand, Drechsler had four jumps over seven metres to capture her second world title.

She jumped 7.09 in her second attempt to take the lead, had 7.11 for the winning distance in the fourth, 7.10 in the fifth and again 7.09 in the sixth. This brought to 113 the number

jumps over seven metres in competition for Drechsler. Her personal best is 7.48, four centimetres outside the world re-Larisa Berezhnaya of Ukraine took the silver medal at 6.98.

while Renata Nielsen of Denmark clinched the bronze at "I was really nervous at the start, in the first jump I had problems with my run-up," Drechsler said. "But after the

attempt, I knew things could work out today." She has now won 17 of 18 her competitions this year, losing only to Tiedtke, in the highaltitude Italian resort of Ses-

seven-metre jump in the second

When she won her first title in Helsinki in 1983, Drechsler was the youngest champion, now she

"I remember I was very excited after that victory (in 1983)," she said. "I am very happy tonight. It is very nice, but it is 10 years

"God, so many things have

happened since then."

She got married. She had a son. Her country ceased to exist. She finally beat Joyner-Kersee. She became Olympic champion. Drechsler was born in Jena, in

what was then East Germany. She was one of East Germany's top athletes and one of the few to survive at the top after the two German states merged and east Germany's powerful sports sys-

tem became a memory.

Drechsler said she plans to be at the 1994 Olympics in Atlanta. unless something else happened like another addition to the family and her three-year-old son

"It's difficult to say, but if it happens, it happens," she said with a laugh.

Gunnell off to bright start; LIK upset in 100 metres hurdles: Olympic women's 400 metres hurdles champion Saily Gunnell of Britain got off ot a bright start with an easy win in her opening heat at the World Athletics Championships Monday.

Gunnell led from start to finish, clocking 55.06 seconds to beat German Silvia Rieger by more than a second even though she eased up in the final straight.

Also through into Tuesday's semifinals were all the other favourites with the best time of the first round set by Russian Margarita Ponomaryova in 54.68 seconds.

Defending world champion Tatyana Ledovskaya of Belarus won her heat in 55.37 seconds but there was a defeat for American Sandra Farmer-Patrick, who finished second to Gunnell at last year's Barcelona Olympics.

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Husseini: Israel must admit it is talking with PLO

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM among the delegates on Aug. 7 (Agencies) — Israel must ack-was published in the Hadashot nowledge it is negotiating with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the leader of the Palestinian peace talks team said Monday after meeting a PLO official in occupied Jerusalem for the first time.

"This person has been appointed by (PLO Chairman) Yasser Arafat and his presence contributes to the delegation's work," said peace team leader Faisal Husseini after the Palestinian delegation had talks with Hassan Abdul Rahman, the organisation's representative in Cana-

"We must continue on this road until it becomes clear to all, including Israel, that this country is for all Palestinians and they have every right to participate in the work to have their independent state," he told the French news agency (AFP).

Israel will only negotiate with Palestinians from the occupied territories, refusing to allow the exiled PLO leadership to attend the peace talks.

Mr. Abdul Rahman arrived in the occupied West Bank a week ago when he was granted an entry permit from the Israeli military authorities after his mother died.

Monday's meeting was the first in occupied Jerusalem between the Palestinian delegation and a PLO official. They discussed the peace process and preparation for the 11th session of bilateral negotiations with Israel, set to begin Aug. 30 in Washington.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday that official PLO statements from Tunis made no mention of the inclusion of members of the Palestinian delegation in the PLO's oversight committee "so there is, therefore, no change in their status."

Mr. Abdul Rahman, head of the PLO Information Centre in Washington from 1974 to 1992, is due to become one of the Palestinian delegation's chief advisers at the bilateral talks.

Israel has said it will continue to talk to the Palestinian delegation, even though the PLO designated its members as its representatives at a meeting in Tunis

After a meeting to sort out tion and the exiled PLO leadership in Tunis, the delegation members became part of a committee overseeing the negotia-tions, headed by Mahmoud Abbas, a member of the orga-

nisation's Executive Committee. The office of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks denied reports of a split among negotiators Sunday, while one negotiator went public with a demand to sack most of the team.

They said some negotiators blasted the PLO leadership as corrupt and self-serving, with Mr. Husseini saying it should be top-

The reports were "untrue and unfounded," a delegation statement said. According to Hadashot, the

delegates fiercely debated whether the PLO leadership was undercutting them by presenting the United States with more flexible position papers.

"We have to topple this leadership. It is incapable and inept," Mr. Husseini was quoted as

saying.
Delegate spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi also criticised the PLO leadership, saying it was uninterested in the residents of the occupied territories.

They are casting aside the youth and sacrificing them for their own interests," Dr. Ashrawi was quoted as saying.

The delegation office in Jeru-

salem said the minutes were ficti-

"These transparent attempts at driving a wedge between the Palestinian delegation and its leadership are part of a campaign of distortion," the statement said.

Since the reported meeting, three of the delegates had threatened to resign, but appeared to have worked out their differences after meeting with PLO leaders in Tunisia. But negotiator Freih Abu

Meidan said Sunday that Haidar Abdul Shafi should replace Mr. Husseini as overall team chief, after the latter's noisy clash with Mr. Arafat last week. "This man means for me credi-

bility," Mr. Abu Meidan said of his fellow Gazan. Dr. Abdul Shafi, as head of the

team to the bilateral talks, was considered head of the team until earlier this year, when the position of joint bilateral-multilateral team chief was created for Mr. Husseini.

Mr. Abu Meidan, a lawyer, said most team members should be replaced with professionals assigned specific roles.

"I suggest to reorganise all the differences between the delega- delegation and to give them a job description... actually we need now for the next year, or for the next stage, a delegation of profes-Mr. Abu Meidan told sionals. Israel Radio.

> Mr. Meidan said the only top member of the team he felt should retain his post was Dr. Abdul Shafi.

"He is the umbrella of the delegation. He is the only man

who should still stay in the top of Iraq sells this delegation... this man means The report of a fiery meeting for me credibility," he said. gasoline **U.S.:** Bosnian Serbs to Kurds still under strike threat

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Bosnian Serb strangulation of the Bosnian capital persists and they remain under threat of air strikes despite withdrawal from strategic hilltops near Sarajevo, the State Department said Monday.

State Department spokesman Mike McCurry also said Washington would airlift 100 more emergency medical cases from Bosnia to the United states for treatment and would facilitate visas for Bosnian athletes being brought to the United States to

train for the Olympics.

Mr. McCurry said U.S. officials have seen the United Nations certification of the Serbs withdrawal from Mount Igman and Mount Bjelansnica (See page 8), but he stressed: "...The withdrawal from the mountaintops was a necessary step but it is certainly not an entirely sufficient step. We need to see the strangulation of Sarajevo ceased."

Until then, "...the warning that we have issued to the Serbs certainly remains in effect," he told reporters.

The United States previously had accepted more than 100 emergency medical cases from

Bosnia but will increase that number by another 100," said Mr. McCurry. He admitted publicity over the plight of a Bosnian girl who was

airlifted to London for medical treatment had triggered a new international response to such

Bosnian Vice-President Ejup Ganic demanded the dismissal of U.N. spokesman Barry Frewer, accusing him of lying by suggesting earlier in the day that Sarajevo was no longer under siege from Bosnian Serbs.

In a letter read over Bosnian government radio, Mr. Ganic declared Commander Frewer persona non grata and called on U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali

to have him recalled. The letter was also addressed to General Jeran Cot. the commander of the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the former Yugoslavia. Mr. Ganic said Mr. Frewer, a

Canadian, was guilty of a "serious lie" at a press conference when he repeatedly refused to describe the Bosnian capital as being under Serbian siege.

At the press conference, Mr. Frewer said the military situation around Sarajevo was calm and that while it remained encircled by Bosnian Serb forces, he would not describe the city as besieged.

Peace talks resume

Leaders of Bosnia's warring factions resumed peace talks Monday to try to resolve deep differences over the internal boundaries of the republic's fu-

Almost immediately, the leaders agreed to allow U.N. military observers to go anywhere in the country, conference spokesman John Mills said 45 minutes after the talks got under way in Gene-

This is an important decision. part of the opening up of Bosnia-Herzegovina," Mr. Mills said, adding that it created an atmosphere of trust for the talks.

It took two weeks of pressure and delicate negotiation to per-suade Bosnia's Muslim president. Alija Izetbegovic, to return to the bargaining table. He has reluctantly agreed to a Serb-Croat proposal to carve up the country into three ethnic states, but seemingly intractable differences remain over the frontiers and the future status of the capital.

not so happy about the actual practice, the fuel paid in dollars is Sarajevo. too expensive. People still cannot Serbs and Croats, who control afford to buy it." Mr. Aziz told about 90 per cent of Bosnia between them, have offered the Muslim-led government almost 30 per cent of the republic for its "The Iraqi government made this offer because of a lack of foreign currency on their own state. But the region is landlockmarket and also to get dollars out ed between hostile Serbs and



SCRAMBLE TO SAFETY: Rescue workers scram-

Hotel which collapsed, killed 85 people (see page 8) ble for safety frightened by a small tremor as the talks may be derailed

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq told its people on Monday it expected politically motivated enemies in the West to use trumped-up human rights charges to block its efforts to end almost three years of crippling trade sanctions.

Iraq plans to send a high-ranking technical delegation to New York in late August or early September to ask senior U.N. weapons experts what other Gulf war ceasefire obligations it has to honour to have the embargo eased or lifted.

"Iraq has honoured 95 per cent of obligations under 687 (the main ceasefire resolution)," the government newspaper Al Jumhouriyah said. "What remains, are secondary issues and technical details... which may be settled down during the forthcoming dialogue in New York." But the article, the first com-

ment by an official Iraqi newspaper on the talks, warned Iraqis that it may not be as simple as "There are ready and open

files to be used and probably the same pretexts will be raised in the forthcoming meeting in new York." it said. "What is expected also is that the enemy camp will not halt its conspiracy against Iraq and the U.N. agreed on

the talks last month during a visit to Baghdad by Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. special Commission scrapping Iraqi weapons of mass destruction under the ceasefire terms. The visit defused a standoff

over the use of monitoring cameras, pending the outcome of the talks, but Iraq wants to use the talks to ease or end the trade blockade, which was imposed af-ter its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait and shut off its lifeblood oil exports.

Al Jumhouriyah said it ex-

ERBIL (AFP) - The sanctions-

hit Iraqi government is raising its

reserves of dollars by selling gaso-

line to Kurdish-controlled north-

ern Iraq, Kurdish officials and

A Patriotic Union of Kurdistan

(PUK) leader said the move was

also designed to weaken the eco-

nomy of the region, which Bagh-

dad lost control of after the 1991

Gulf war, by siphoning off fore-

Since a contract was signed

with two Kurdish companies last

week, Iraq's Sadira company has

shipped eight million litres of

petrol and diesel from Kirkuk to

Sulaymaniyah, company mana-

gers Abu Bakr Abdul Rahman

and Khayrullah Saleh told AFP.

The contract is for 40 million

litres and more contracts are

possible, a PUK official in

value of the contract.

Sulaymaniyah, Cemal Aziz, said.

Baghdad made the offer to sell

United Nations sanctions im-

posed after Iraq's Aug. 2, 1990

invasion of Kuwait banned all

Mr. Aziz, the PUK leader in

Sulaymaniyah, said: "We are

happy with any opportunities to

resolve the fuel problem for the

"But for the moment, we are

exports of Iraqi oil.

coming winter.

businessmen said here.

ign currency reserves.

pected Max van Der Stoel, special investigator for the U.N. Human Rights Commission, to be ready to chip in with "reports prepared beforehand by states known for their hostility towards

Iraq."
Mr. Van Der Stoel told a similar meeting last year that Iraq was using indiscriminate shelling and gigantic irrigation projects to weaken the 3,000-year-old inaccessible sanctuary of the Shi'ite marsh Arabs in the south.

The exiled Shi ite opposition, whose post-Gulf war revolt against President Saddam Hussein was crushed, says 4,500 people from the southern marshes have so far taken refuge in Iran in face of an Iraqi offensive and attempts to drain the area. Iraq vehemently denies the

charges. It says its offensive is against Iranian infiltrators and Iran-backed army deserters who carry out hit-and-run raids on civilian targets. A reports in Bahel, a newspap-

er published by President Saddam's eldest son Uday, on Monday described the marsh Arabs who took refuge in Iran as "renegades." The Security Council has link-

ed any easing of sanctions to compliance with the various ceasefire resolutions. Al Jumhouriyah urged the Ira-

qi delegation to the talks to be ready to face allegations from "the representative of the godless regime in Kuwait who will present more than a lie for which will shed crocodile tears." Kuwait demands that Iraq hon-

our all Security Council resolutions, including its recognition by Baghdad as an independent entity within the newly-U.N. drawn borders.

It also demands that Baghdad return hundreds of Kuwaitis it says went missing during the Iraqi

occupation from August 1990 to February 1991. Baghdad says no Kuwaitis remain in Iraq.

'Iran using PoWs'

Iraq accused Iran Monday of using Iraqis captured during their 1980-1988 war as political pawns and told it to release them.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency, rejected suggestions from Tehran that Iraq was still holding 5,000 Iranian prisoners of

war (PoWs). "The regime in Iran... continues using the issue of PoWs as a political card to realise dubious targets." the spokesman said. 'Iraq demands the Iranian regime to free all Iraqi prisoners registered with the ICRC and also those not registered."

Iraq and Iran give conflicting PoW figures following a series of mass prisoner exchanges. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) says it keeps records on 20,000 Iraqi prisoners in Iran and around 1,000 Iranians in Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said Iran still kept "tens of thousands of Iraqi PoWs, registered and non-registered" and rejected Tehran's suggestion that still held Iranians.

"The Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Iraq denies false and misleading statements by Iranian officials and confirms that Iraq had set free all Iranian PoWs," he added.

The spokesman said only a few Iranian soldiers remained in Iraq and "these refused to go home and the ICRC has visited them several times and made sure of their desire not to return."

The only other Iranian prisoners in Iraq, he added, were infiltrators held for crimes committed during post-Gulf war unrest.

Majlis rejects finance minister

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's parliament on Monday rejected the reappointment of Finance Minister Mohsen Nourbaksh, a key figure in President Hashemi Rafsanjani's drive to reform the economy, state-run television re-

The loss of Mr. Nourbaksh was one of the heaviest political blows to Mr. Rafsanjani since he was first elected in July 1989, reflecting rejection of his economic

Mr. Rafsanjani was re-elected to a second four-year term in June, but with a much-reduced majority that reflected public discontent at the moribund economy, which the president has

been unable so far to revitalise. Parliament gave a vote of con-fidence to all 23 members of Mr. Rafsanjani's proposed cabinet except for Mr. Nourbaksh, the television said in a report monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

There was no dollar figure for the Mr. Nourbaksh spearheaded drives to privatize state-run in-dustries, slash subsidies on basic gasoline for dollars shortly after it commodities and streamline the suspended negotiations last multiple exchange-rate system, month with the United Nations policies that were bitterly aimed at allowing the export of opposed by many members of limited quantities of oil under parliament U.N. supervision, the officials

Sources in Tehran, who spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Nourbaksh won the votes of 127 out of the 261 deputies present in Monday's parliament vote.

Under the Iranian system, the appointment of cabinet ministers must be approved by more than half of the deputies present. Seventy-five deputies voted against him, while the others

The U.S.-educated Nourbaksh was appointed by Mr. Rafsanjani in August 1989.

A former governor of the central bank, he advocated a tight-money policy. During his tenure at central bank the inflation rate has kept at 10-20 per cent year, a of the Kurdish region," he said. relatively low figure for Iran. It rose to 50 per cent after he left. Mr. Nourbaksh was considered the key financial figure and a leading technocrat in Mr. Rafsanjani's cabinet, one among several Western-educated figures brought into the cabinet four

Last week. Mr. Rafsaniani reshuffled his cabinet but Mr. Nourbaksh was among the ministers who kept his job. The reshuffle had been expected following Mr. Rafsanjani's reelection earlier in the year.

vears ago.

Although Mr. Nourbaksh's conomic policy was heavily criticised in the lead-up to Monday's parliament vote, he had still been expected to win a vote of confi-

Mr. Rafsanjani won 63 per cent of the vote in June's elections, far short of predictions and of the 94.5 per cent that swept the middle-ranking cleric into office four years earlier. Observers said the decline in

support and low voter turnout appeared to reflect widespread dissatisfaction over a deteriorating economy. Analysts have said they believe the president will forge ahead

with his reforms, although that must now be cast into doubt following the unexpectedly strong opposition from parliament, early in his second term. The miaority of parliament

members elected to parliament in the last poll in 1992 were initially seen as supporters of Mr. Rafsaniani. But many have since joined forces with his radical rivals who oppose privatisation and foreign vestment

Mr. Rafsanjani shied away from major economic restructuring during his first term, fearing its impact on the poor, who make up much of his following. Iran is still suffering from the devastation of the 1980-88 Iran-

Iraq war, with high inflation and

unemployment and a shortage of

ultimatum — paper the two men for trial in the TRIPOLI (Agencies) — Libya United States or Britain, diplowill defy an Oct. 1 ultimatum set by the West to hand over suspects mats said on Monday.
"It is astonishing that the three

wanted in connection with the Western states ... set a deadline of 1988 Lockerbie aircraft bombing. weeks to solve a problem of such a daily newspaper said Monday. scale which took, as they recog-"We vehemently reject the lan-guage of threats," said Al Zahf nise, several years of investigations and inquiries," the foreign affairs ministry said Sunday. Al Akhdar newspaper. "We will not do anything under warnings A senior Tripoli-based Euro-

pean diplomat familiar with the The daily is the organ of the Lockerbie case told Reuters: "If revolutionary committees created we get into escalation, we will by Muammar Qadhafi, which arrive at a full oil embargo. I control political life in Libya. expect Germany, Italy and Spain, The newspaper said the ultimathe major European buyers of tum issued by the United States, Libya's crude, to anticipate an oil

the United Kingdom and France embargo." flew in the face of international Possibilitiess could include, at a opinion. It pointed out that the first stage, an embargo on im-U.N. Security Council, which has ports of equipment for the oil also called for the handover of industry, such as production on the suspects, "has not issued either threats or warnings." refining machinery, and a freeze

But it underlined Libya's wil-An "oil-related embargo" lingess to "keep the door open could cripple the Libyan eco-nomy, experts said. The country for solutions to be found to this thorny problem," calling for an had virtually no resources other advance agreement on where the than its daily output of 1.35 mil-lion barrels of high-quality crude. Washington, London and Paris

Colonel Qadhafi said recently demanded on Aug. 13 that Tripo-li hand over by Oct. 1 two Libyan his country was earning between \$8 and \$10 billion a year from oil. citizens wanted in connection Libyans have been pressing with the December 1988 bombing U.S. oil companies and European partners in oil to lobby against an over Lockerbie, Scotland in France also wants to question

embargo, diplomats said.
"The Libyans believe the major European buyers depend too much of their oil, and so the blowing up of a French airliner in 1989 which killed 170 people. buyers will lobby against an oil embargo. The Libyans are Libya has proposed that the wrong. Buyers can prepare them-selves and find other sources of country, complaining the demands were a breach of its energy," the diplomat said.
"France was a major client of sovereignty and that the suspects

the Libyan oil for years, but it has diverted itself from the Libyan oil without big losses," an oil expert said. Libya's oil production was

Council, which adopted the Resolution 731 calling for the handalready partly affected by a trade over of the suspects to the UNembargo — including oil industry ited Kingdom or United States in equipment — imposed by the United Sates in 1986, oil experts January last year, and Resolution 748 imposing punitive sanctions on Libya the following March. Oil industry sources said Libya The sanctions currently comwas finding it hard to maintain prise air and military embargoes. production levels and wells were

if further U.N. sanctions were imposed. European and Arab diplomats language of threats and deadlines we reject everything," Al Zhaf in Tripoli said Libya appeared prepared to face the possibility of

in bad shape because of the lack

of U.S. technology. They said

some fields would go into decline

further sanctions. Major European buyers of "I don't see it deciding to Libya's crude were likely to anti-surrender the two men," said a cipate an oil embargo as part of Western diplomat. "I think that fresh sanctions will start a new ITS SAUCtions if Tripoli failed to hand over escalation in the conflict.'

U.S. said to reject plan

(Continued from page 1)

trial would take place.

which 270 people died.

two Libyan suspects over the

suspects be tried in a "neutral"

would otherwise not get a fair

The United States, the United

Kingdom and France are perma-

nent members of the Security

The three countries are pushing

for them to be extended to cover

finance, oil and technological

"Once again we reject the lan-guage of threat, and under the

necessities.

Al Akhbar declared.

adoption of many Israeli posi-

tions.
"Palestinians' concern also stemmed from the absence of a binding timeframe for the start of the interim period which allowed Israel to exploit the time factor to its advantage," one PLO official

The American-Israeli suggestion of the early transfer and assumption of specified functions in parts of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, instead of solving the impasse reached in the Palestinian-Israeli track presented further complications and convinced some PLO officials that the interim period was no

over the interim period directly into the permanent status negotiations was viewed by some officials as a creative approach aimed at overcoming the restrictions of the two-stage Madrid formula.

"Working on permanent status while simultaneously carrying out real changes in the occupied territories could resolve the impasse and put Palestinian-Israeli and

longer viable. The mixed model or leaping

Arab-Israeli tracks of the peace process within the same timeframe," one official said. But opponents of the idea said

had the idea been accepted by the U.S. and Israel, Israel would have fulfilled a long-term wish of getting rid of Gaza and using this as an excuse to claim that it would have implemented U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. "It is an impractical suggestion

because two timeframes will exist, and more important, the crucial issues of jurisdiction, Jerusalem and settlements would re-main unsolved," a Turns-based official said. "Furthermore, without massive funds, the Gaza-Jericho option would be an economic disaster." "We will have entered into

partial permanent status negotiations on the easier issues from a position of weakness," he said, pointing out that many Palestinians consider the interim period as an opportunity to gradually strengthen and improve conditions in the occupied territories.
"The U.S. told Palestinians

that this option was a departure from the two-phased Madrid formula and was thus rejected," the official said.

KLM hijack ends peacefully

(Continued from page 1)

Sheikh Abdul Rahman's lawyer said in New York the sheikh had nothing to do with the hijacking and did not sanction it. "Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman did not sponsor the hijacking. He does not sanction what the hiiacker did. It's something he knows nothing about," said Michael Warren.

The hijacker also demanded that U.N. sanctions against Serbia be more strictly enforced.

Egypt's state-owned Middle East News Agency said police were interrogating a Lebanese man who was sitting near Mr.

Gharib on the plane. But German police said they had no evidence Mr. Gharib had an accomplice. Egyptian security sources said Mr. Gharib left Cairo last Mon-

several days before hijacking the They said Mr. Gharib had no criminal record apart from

day for Tunisia where he spent

bouncing a few cheques.

He made frequent business trips to Europe, particularly Germany and the Netherlands, the sources said. He owned a brick factory and enjoyed a good reputation in his village of Bad-

Lebanon rules out security accord

(Continued from page 1)

85 to 90 per cent of the people who were displaced are now back in their villages. But many came back to destroyed houses," he told Reuters in Beirut.

"We estimate that approximately 1,500 houses are destroyed and another 1,000 partially destroyed and there is a greater number, maybe 10-15,000 with minor repairs to be made," he much-needed foreign investment. | said

The Lebanese government esti-mated that 10,000 homes were destroyed by the seven-day Israeli bombardment and a further 20,000 were severely damaged.

Mr. Eliasson said the U.N. aid programme to be launched in about a week would be worth between \$28 million and \$30 million with almost half for rebuilding homes and the rest for rehabilitating water supplies, sanitation, agriculture and the health sector.

The state of the s

Baby saved from garbage compactor

BRISBANE, Australia (AFP) -

A new-born baby wrapped in plastic and dumped in a rubbish bin was saved from being tipped into a compactor by a council garbage collector here Monday. The baby, whom police named Mary Desley — in honour of the garbage collector — was taken to hospital where she was later said to be little the worse for her indignities although her low temperature was being monitored by anxious hospital staff. A 30year-old woman thought to be her mother was also admitted later in the day to the same hospital after seeking medical treatment, police said. She is expected to be interviewed Tuesday and a man was also assisting police with their inquiries. Mary, who weighed about 3.3 kilograms (7 pounds 4 ounces), was found naked apart from the white plastic wrapping after the garbage collector heard her crying in the bin. He took her to hospital then contacted police. A spokeswoman at the Mater Hospital said Mary was in a satisfactory condition after "a few cuddles" from the staff. "The staff are always professional but they seem to pay that little bit more attention when it's a sad or unusual circumstance," the spokeswoman said.

Pope's U.S. visit produces special vocabulary

DENVER (AP) — The party visit also produced its own special vocabulary. The all-night vigil before Pope John Paul's World Youth Day mass Sunday, when thousands of kids bunked down in sleeping bags, and some in plastic garbage bags, was dubbed "God's Woodstock." The portable toilets at the site were nick-named "Vati-cans." And of course, out here in the wide open spaces, the "Popemobile" was known as "the papal pickup."

22.

U.K. lord marks 30 years of political lunacy

LONDON (R) - Screaming 12 12 Lord Sutch, a self-styled nobleman who heads Britain's Monster Raving Loony Party, celebrated | 122 30 years on the political fringe Sunday and yowed to win a seat in parliament one day. Lord Sutch, a pop singer whose top (5) hats and leopardskin suits enlived the otherwise sober political scene, has fought and lost 36 local and general elections in his Essade to highlight the inadequacy at it. of career politicians. "I don't get dispirited, some day I'll find a constituency where people are totally fed up with existing politicians and vote in the Monster Raving Loony party," he said in a British radio interview. Lord Sutch threw a party on a bridge near London's houses of parliament Sunday to celebrate 30 years since his first by-election when, aged 22, he polled 208 votes in the constituency of Stratford-Upon-Avon. In the 1992 general election which returned Prime Minister John Major's Conservatives to power. Lord Sutch campaigned on a minim manifesto of turning the houses of parliament into a funpark and putting crocodiles into the River Thames. His 1963 manifesto included lowering the voting age to and 18, abolishing school selection tests at 11 and ending the British Broadcasting Corporation's radio monopoly - all of which have since been carried out by real politicians. "I've put the fun back into politics. There were undertakers and old men running the country when I started and now we've got grey people running

it," he said. After bikinis, mayor goes after loafers

ROME (AP) — First the major banned bikinis. Now he's after loafers. Office loafers, that is-The kind who waste hours on the job leafing through newspapers at their desks. The mayor of Alassio prohibited the wearing of bikinis in the streets of his Italian Riviers resort last month. Now he has banned city employees from reading newspapers at work, the Corriere Della Sera newspaper of Milan reported Sunday. Mayor Roberto Avogadro is from the Northern League, a fast-growing. conservative party in northern Italy that backs cutting waste in Italy that backs cutting washing the bloated public sector. The the bloated public sector. The bloated public sector. reading ban was sought by the city public works commissioner. Marco Melgrati, Corriere Della Sera reported. "I began with newspapers, next I'm going after computers," the daily quoted the commissioner as saying. "It may seem absurd but classic electronic - h games have been programmed an employee who instead the working. was fighting with monkey surrounded by electronic